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The Schreiber Times



Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume XXXIX, No. 4
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Windows and concerts usher in winter season



Photos: clockwise from top left. The Leader's Club celebrates the holiday season with its decorative cafeteria window. Choir members junior Kate Pedatella, and sophomores Jenny Gamell, Jackie Mott, and Amy McDonald sing a in the Winter Concert I. Sports Night participants (left to right) junior Jessica Wilpon, sophomore Lauren Kanfi, and senior Liz Greenbaum decorate their winter holiday cafeteria windows. Sophomore Elena Potylitsine performs an orchestra piece during Winter Concert I. Photographs by Jenn Chung and Sarah Cullen.

Photo Gallery



Senior Jenn Chung portrays senior Shelley Latimer's hands spreading cream cheese over a delicious bagel. Jenn Chung took the photo for Mr. Ron Costello's photography class.

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Schreiber Times receives awards

The Schreiber Times won several awards at the Empire State School Press Association Fall Conference at Syracuse University on October 16.

The Schreiber Times won the gold award for the Best All-Around Newspaper Publication in the All-New York category. In the On-line Publications category, The Schreiber Times On-line was the only recipient of the gold award in the All-New York category. The Schreiber Times also won the silver award in the Best Front Page category and an honorable mention for Newspaper Best Editorial Page.

Individual recipients of awards for significant contribution to The Schreiber Times include Danielle Lindemann, a 1998 Schreiber graduate and former copy editor, who won a gold medal in the Best Newspaper Columnist category and a silver medal in the Best Newspaper Feature Story category. Jonathan Braman, also a 1998 graduate and former editor-in-chief, received a bronze in the Newspaper Entertainment/Review category and an honorable mention in the Best Newspaper News Story category. Brooke Hagel, 1998 Schreiber graduate, received the gold award for the Best Newspaper Cartoon/Graphic/Illustration.

Current Times staff-member sophomore Hilary Broder also received an honorable mention in the Newspaper Best Editorial Cartoon category.

-Sarah Morgan

Auction Held for Senior Gambol

Many teachers and administrators auctioned items or services to help finance the 1999 Gambol on December 16.

The Student government sponsored the auction, which occurred after school

NEWS BRIEFS

in the cafeteria. The proceeds will go to the senior class to alleviate the burden of financing the Gambol.

Among the notable items up for bid was a two-hour workout at East Coast Health Club instructed by science teacher Mr. Jim Jones, two tickets to the upcoming New York Rangers game against the Ottawa Senators from math teacher Ms. Lois Baslaw, and an invitation to a chili cookoff at science teacher Ms. Barbara Selwitz's home. Associate principal Dr. Rita Albert and home economics teacher Ms. Sally Reinhardt offered nine holes of golf for two people. In addition to these unique offers, the following teachers rented their parking spaces: math teacher Ms. Judy Keller, assistant principal Mr. Carmine Matina, special education teacher Ms. Patty Raimondo, and math teacher Mr. Jack Weickel. Principal Dr. Sid Barish, gym teacher Ms. Carol Hulse, and science teacher Mr. Neil Rothman and social studies teacher Mrs. Pam Rothman offered lunches and dinners for the auction.

-Ben Brod

Quiz Bowl beats competition

The Schreiber Quiz Bowl teams began its season with a victory and a tie in its meets against Plainview and Old Bethpage High Schools.

In the first meet against Plainview High School on November 18, Schreiber had an overwhelming victory of 300 to 75 points. The second meet, against Old Bethpage High School, was held on December 12. Schreiber won against Bethpage with a score of 176 to 97.

Schreiber's Quiz Bowl team consists

of a separate varsity and junior varsity team. Members are seniors Gerard Goetz, Brian Pahk, and Peter Vabulas, and juniors Ben Brod, Daniel Halperin, Lucas Hanft, Dan Kay, Kristin Kovner, Kate Pedatella, and Viviana Risca. Each student contributes different talents to the team.

Schreiber is one of eight schools within the regional competition, which is held at Plainview High School. There are eight regions within Nassau and Suffolk counties. Presently, Schreiber is undefeated.

-Anita Jose

Sports Night captains chosen

This year's Sports Night captains for the blue and white teams were announced in November.

The blue team and the white team each have three dances. Dance captains for the blue team include senior Julie Zankel and junior Patti Ezratty for the first dance, seniors Jackie Gerber and Christina Wright for the second dance, and senior Sue Mao and junior Katie Lowes for the third dance. The blue team skit captains are seniors Stacey Lewis and Tracy Weintraub, juniors Blayke Scheer and Dara Silverstein, sophomores Amanda Charney and Mary Ryan, and freshman Liz Serrano.

Dance captains for the white team are senior Meredith Schiff and junior Marina Cashdan for the first dance, juniors Tracy Alden and Rorie Wach for the second dance, and junior Jen Farasciano and sophomore Maria Donado for the third dance. The white team skit captains are seniors Kathy Ball and Liz Greenbaum; juniors Tanya Konstantinovskaya and Lauren Talesnick; sophomores Lauren

Kanfi and Jackie Weiner; and freshman Emily Farber.

-Anita Jose

Students excel at competition

Twelve seniors from Latin teacher Ms. Ruth Haukeland's classes qualified to participate in the final round of a competition to obtain one of three full-year scholarships from Boston University.

The seniors were Jen Cho, Julie Cho, Esther Knapp, Krista L'Abbate, Gloria Lee, Dan Lindner, Sue Mao, Lauren Piantentini, Suveer Sarna, Jared Silver, Peter Vabulas, and Julie Zankel.

Approximately twenty-four students participated in the first round of the competition, which was a test administered at Schreiber. In order to have qualified for the final round, students must have obtained a score above 200. The final round was a second test administered at Boston University. Lee participated in the final round.

Ms. Haukeland commented, "I was very gratified that so many of my students did well and qualified for the final round. I am gratified because it shows Schreiber is a highly competitive school, and it is only the first year the classes are participating in this competition."

This is the first year which the Latin classes have participated in the competition.

-Anita Jose

Corrections:

In the previous issue, two reporters did not receive credit for their articles. Sarah Morgan, and not Anita Jose, wrote "Concert held in memory of Sumeet Chopra," and Christine Kang wrote "TESL students visit museum." The Schreiber Times apologizes for these errors.

Students perform at Winter Concert I

by Ben Brod

Winter Concert I was held on December 9 featuring several fantastic musical performances by the orchestra, choirs, and bands.

The concert began with Mr. Joseph Mooney conducting the Symphonic orchestra. The group played three pieces, which included "Marcia," by Wolfgang Mozart, "When I Am Laid in Earth," by Henry Purcell, and "Symphony in E flat major," by Carl Abel.

"Marcia" is a march from the first movement of Cassation, first performed in 1769. Mozart wrote the piece when he was thirteen. "When I Am Laid in Earth" is from Purcell's opera, "Dido and Aeneas," based on Virgil's epic poem. This piece also featured sophomore Maria Rosa Donado singing the soprano role. "Symphony E flat major" is a selection from the works of the often forgotten Carl Abel.

The next group to take the stage was the women's ensemble, conducted by Mr. Philip Glover. The first piece was "By N' By," by Robert DeCormier. This piece is an adaptation of an African American spiritual. The Women's Ensemble also sang "How Merrily We Live," by Michael Este. This is a piece from the early seventeenth century that highlights youthful fun.

After the women's ensemble performed its two pieces, the entire choir took the stage. Also conducted by Mr. Phillip Glover, the choir first performed "Shenandoah," by Roger Ames. "Shenandoah" is an arrangement of a folksong which shares melody with each of the vocal parts. "The Water Is Wide," by Richard Smith, was next on the program. This work, like "Shenandoah," is a new rendition of an old folksong. The choir concluded with Undine Moore's work, "Daniel, Daniel, Servant of the Lord," which is a spiritual piece which included a chant-

ing effect, serving as a background for the soloists.

The final vocal ensemble to perform was the chamber singers, conducted by Mr. Phillip Glover. The chamber singers sang "Weep No More, Sad Fountains," an expressive work by C. Armstrong Gibbs which serves as a perfect example of the bond between text and music. This group concluded with "Carol of the Bells," by Leontovich Wilhousky, a piece that shifts melody from one part to another.

The concert band, conducted by Mr. Jeffrey Byrne, first performed "The Thunderer," by John Phillip Sousa. This was

one of Sousa's most imaginative marches. The concert band then played Jay Bocook's "Ascensions," which features a slow introduction, followed by a fast section, which is again followed by a lyrical development. The concert band concluded with a unique interpretation of the classic holiday favorite "Jingle Bells," by J. Pierpont.

The winter concert concluded with the jazz band, conducted by Mr. Mitchell Lutch. The jazz band was also accompanied by junior vocalists Kristin Kovner and Ariana Tolins. The jazz band performed "The Heat's On," by Sammy Nestico, was performed. Following this piece, the jazz band played "Basie's Barbecue," a piece by Gary Salvo. The band also played "God Bless the



John Chung

Senior Peter Squires, affectionately known to his adoring music fans as "Professor Funk", plays the trombone as part of a Dixieland group featured by the concert band.

Child," a piece by acclaimed blues singer Billie Holliday. The concert concluded with the jazz band's rendition of "Emancipation Blues," by Oliver Nelson.

The conductors of the concert were proud of the night's performances. Mr. Jeffrey Byrne, conductor of the concert band, commented, "I personally thought that the band was marvelous; the students played together in an outstanding manner."

Mr. Joseph Mooney, conductor of the orchestra, also had praise for the concert. Mr. Mooney said, "I was pleased with the way in which the orchestra performed, but I hope this is the first step towards a level of higher musical performance."

Fight Occurs in Monfort Lot

by Charles Albanese and Anita Jose

The Port Washington Police responded to a call from Principal Sid Barish regarding an incident at the Monfort Parking Lot on Friday, November 27.

Three students from outside of Port Washington and a Schreiber student were arrested after the fight. One Schreiber student was brought to the hospital by ambulance because of injuries incurred through the fight.

Principal Dr. Sid Barish stated that he first heard of a possible fight at Monfort Parking Lot from an anonymous call on the afternoon preceding the day of the fight. On the day of the fight, Dr. Barish received a phonecall from Superintendent Dr. Albert Inserra informing him that a group of Asian teenagers had congregated outside the administration building. Furthermore, the superintendent asked Dr. Barish to investigate what the group was doing and to call the police in order to disburse them.

Dr. Barish approached the group and asked them to leave the school premises before the police arrived. Though the group did leave, Barish decided to ask the police to remain on watch. He stated that he was sure that the teenagers would

not be far away from the school, and based on the information he had received the day before, decided to take the necessary precautions to prevent a possible fight.

When Dr. Barish observed students running towards the Monfort parking lot, he immediately contacted the police, who sent police officers to the scene. He discovered that three to four teenagers, who were not from Port Washington, were involved in a fight with a Schreiber student.

In response to the fight, Dr. Barish sent notices to both the intruders and the police that if they were seen on school property once more, they could be arrested for trespassing. In addition, Barish suspended the Schreiber student. According to school policy, if he wished to suspend the student for more than five days, a superintendent's hearing must be held, and Dr. Inserra would determine whether a greater penalty would be necessary.

Dr. Barish stated, "It is difficult to control everything in this school, which includes staff, students, etc., but things happen." However, he believes that parents who are keeping their children at home have little to fear for their children's safety. He stated that all the actions taken insured the safety of students. He responded to the information he received on Friday, despite the fact that the call might have been a prank. In addition, the police responded quickly to the situation. Furthermore, both security guards and teachers were told to be on watch for more confrontations.

Sports columnist from New York Times visits Schreiber media center

by Sarah Morgan

Mr. George Vecsey, a sports columnist for *The New York Times* and a collaborative writer of several autobiographies, spoke to students in the Schreiber library during block one on November 18.

Various English classes, including journalism, composition, and Advanced Placement English, signed up to attend this discussion. In his speech, Mr. Vecsey talked about his life as a writer for a major newspaper. He stated that even though his job does not pay the highest salary, it is glamorous because he gets to work with Michael Jordan and other high profile athletes. Mr. Vecsey emphasized that he takes a casual approach during interviews in order to get athletes to open up to him.

In addition to discussing the various aspects of his career, Mr. Vecsey also touched on literary influences within his life.

Librarian Media Specialist Ms. Kate Herz, who was very pleased with the presentation, said that Mr. Vecsey had

"really interesting insights into the field of journalism." Mr. Vecsey answered questions at the end of his presentation on the NBA lock-out and on the media's dominating presence in the lives of high-profile athletes. Ms. Herz felt that students had a unique opportunity to meet a professional writer from a prominent newspaper. She also felt that Mr. Vecsey was personable, approachable, and informal, and that he held the attention of the students and teachers in attendance.

Mr. Vecsey, who was able to come to Schreiber due to the NBA lockout, has been a resident of Port Washington since 1968, which is the year in which he joined *The New York Times*. He graduated from Hofstra University and started his journalism career in the 1950s, when he began working for *Newsday*.

Mr. Vecsey's family is also involved in journalism. His three children are graduates of Schreiber High School.

Vecsey has collaborated with various writers, including tennis great Ms. Martina Navratilova. In 1989, Mr. Vecsey published *A Year in the Sun: The Games, the Players, the Pleasure of Sports*. He also wrote the *Coal Miner's Daughter* with Loretta Lynn. His most recent collaboration was with Chinese dissident Mr. Harry Wu in *Troublemaker; One Man's Crusade Against China's Cruelty*.

ESL students hold bake sale and attend concert

by Anita Jose

One hundred students from the English as a Second Language (ESL) program attended a pre-concert to Chamber Music Concert Number One in the auditorium on December 2.

The concert, held during block six, featured two solo singers, two ensembles, and a piano solo by ESL student junior Jae Won Seo, who is originally from Korea. Orchestra leader Joseph Mooney and ESL teachers also attended the event.

Following the concert, students and performers attended a one-hour reception in room 107, where they had drinks and cookies. Members of the International Club baked approximately 300 to 400 cookies for the reception on December 1.

The purpose of the concert was to provide a private performance for the ESL students so that they would have the opportunity to see fellow ESL students perform. In addition, the concert provided a live audience for the performers



Junior Jae Won Seo performed extraordinarily at the pre-concert.

who would appear in Chamber Music Concert Number One on that same day.

Health department celebrates Great American Smokeout

by Timothy Jose

Students, the health department, and the school nurse participated in various activities to promote the Great American Smokeout on November 19.

Juniors Marina Cashdan, Nicole Ibanez, Heather Levin, and Jessica Wilpon created and hung posters throughout the lobby and hallways in order to increase students' awareness of the dangers associated with smoking.

In addition to increasing students' awareness of the Great American Smokeout, Cashdan, Ibanez, Levin, and Wilpon raised fifty dollars for the Alliance for Lung Cancer Advocacy, Support, and Education (ALCASE) and 250 dollars for the Michael Berkowitz Lung Cancer Fund at Beth Israel Medical Center. The students raised money through the collection of donations, the sale of ribbons (which symbolized the worldwide population affected by lung cancer), and the sale of candy bags, which they assembled themselves.

Health teachers Ms. Meghan Freeley and Ms. Pat Kosiba assisted the students in the candy bags sale and also encouraged them in their effort to promote the

Great American Smokeout. The four students took the initiative to promote the national event in order to encourage teenage smokers to quit smoking.

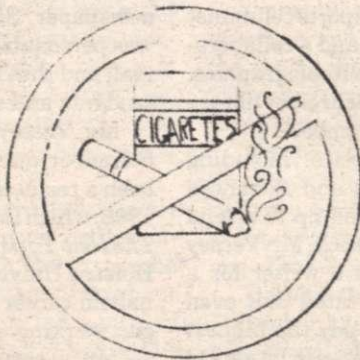
School nurse Ms. Annette Keenan also contributed to the students' efforts. Ms. Keenan created a bulletin board display concerning the detrimental effects which smoking has on a person's body.

Ms. Kosiba additionally celebrated the Great American Smokeout by inviting Mr. Paul H. Marshall to her health classes on November 19. Mr. Marshall explained

how smoking damaged his larynx. Presently, he uses a microphone so people can hear his voice. Mr. Marshall allowed students to see and use the microphone while he discussed the various consequences of smoking. Though Mr. Marshall did not tell the students that they should stop smoking, he intended to warn the students of the dangers related to smoking.

Mr. Marshall, whose daughter is a Schreiber graduate, has been coming to speak at the health classes for five years. Currently, he works as an information technology systems manager.

The Great American Smokeout, sponsored by the American Health Society, is held annually on the third Thursday of November. The American Health Association sends posters, stickers, and information for students to the Schreiber health department.



Katherine Casey

English essay contests

Goucher College: "Women Writing About Women" is a contest open to high school women. Entries should be original pieces of writing: short fiction, drama, essays or collections or three or more poems. Winners will be invited to Goucher in Baltimore to participate in a workshop and to attend an awards ceremony. *Deadline: January 6, 1999.*

Scholastic Art and Writing Awards: This is a major opportunity for students to receive cash awards and possibly be invited to Washington for awards ceremonies in June. Writing categories include dramatic script, essay/non-fiction/opinion writing, humor, writing portfolio. *Deadline: January 15, 1999.*

Nassau Reading Council: Students will submit personal narratives. Five entries per school will be accepted from grades 9-10 and grades 11-12. Winners will be invited to an awards ceremony and their work will be in the official contest book. *Deadline: February 8, 1999.*

Eldred World War II Museum: Open to all students under 19. Students will write an essay of 1000-1500 words on the topic, "World War II probably touched more lives than any other event in all of human history. Why?" There are several prizes including \$1500, \$1250, \$1000, and \$200 cash awards. *Deadline: March 1, 1999.*

Susquehanna University: Students may submit entries in several different categories: fiction, poetry, drama, essay, journalism (features, interviews), photography, and art. Winners will be published in "The Apprentice Writer." *Deadline: March 15, 1999.*

Ayn Rand Institute: Students will write an essay on one of three topics relevant to *Anthem* (for students in grades 9-10) or to *The Fountainhead* (for students in grades 11-12). There are prizes totaling \$35,000. *Deadline: April 1 for Anthem; April 15 for The Fountainhead.*



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Amnesty International

celebrates Human Rights Week

by Jennifer Chung

The life size posters of prisoners of conscience (P.O.C.s) signaled the beginning of Human Rights Week, which was hosted by Amnesty International during the week of December 7-11.

Each day was devoted to a specific topic pertaining to human rights. Students for a Free Tibet and for Refuse and Resist also participated in the week.

Students for a Free Tibet hosted the first day of the week. Seniors Bernard Pollock and Dan Kohn, heads of Schreiber's chapter of SFT, led the assembly with passionate speeches concerning the abuse of human rights within Tibet. The director of the United Method-



Arielle Soloff

Ms. Leila Kazemi, a speaker from Third Wave, discussed women's rights.

ist Church for the United Nations Mission, Paul Donowitz, spoke on the topic of "Human Rights: A Global Concern." Mr. Donowitz highlighted the injustices Tibetans have been facing in their country.

On Tuesday, Refuse and Resist led a student presentation focused on police brutality in the United States and abolition of the death penalty. These are two of the eight major campaigns the Amnesty organization focuses on. The speaker was Miles Senower, a high school senior devoted to furthering the knowledge of human rights abuses.

The director of *Out Front*, Amnesty International's Program on Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, and Transgender human rights, spoke about sexual orientation and human rights on Wednesday. Ms. Phyllis Barell, the regional director of the

Anti-Defamation League of Long Island, discussed hate crime on Long Island and on the Internet. Sophomore Justin Berkowitz also made special commentary.

On Thursday, Ms. Leila

Kazemi, a spokeswoman from Third Wave, a feminist organization, addressed the issue of women's rights throughout the world. Ms. Leila Kazemi not only provided the students with valuable facts about women's rights, but she also informed the audience of her own views on the issue. Questions on women's rights abuses worldwide were thoroughly addressed.

For example, in Afghanistan a woman was beaten dead simply because her arm was exposed while driving. Adrian Spollari, Secretary to the Albanian Ambassador, spoke on the militant situation in Kosovo and informed the students of the mass genocide taking place there.

Human Rights Week concluded with a presentation by former Schreiber alumni Christine Doyle, who is the executive field researcher for Amnesty International as well as a criminal defense lawyer. A video named "Rights For All" was shown. Afterwards, Ms. Doyle conducted a question and answer session. Students openly expressed their views, some questioned the validity of Amnesty's doctrine while others espoused the organization's work against human rights abuses.

Doyle expected an open forum for discussion but was bombarded with accusational questions instead. Furthermore, many complained that the assembly did not provide both sides of the issues presented. Some labeled the presentation as "propaganda" by Amnesty International.

According to some students present actions, some students failed to see the big picture. Particular speakers were invited to inform the student body of international and national issues. They believe that, a portion of the students perceived this as Amnesty's attempt at forcing ideas on the audience. Amnesty

International claims that it never stated that the students had to concur with the organization's views, and that it was simply there to provide more information on the issue of human rights.

Principal Dr. Sid Barish said, "I applaud Amnesty International for celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of Human Rights Week with presentations over the week. At the Friday assembly in particular, people wondered why there wasn't a more balanced presentation. For me, I thought it brought an important issue to the forefront and raised human consciousness on certain issues; that in itself is commendable."

He continued to state that he believed there was a fine line between the free expression of opinions and ideas and respect and civility for the speaker. Though he did not reprimand any students for their behavior, he felt that some should have "taken stock" of whether their behavior would be disrespectful to the speaker.

This was the first time that Schreiber's chapter of Amnesty International has organized Human Rights week. Since



Arielle Soloff

Junior David London asks the speaker a question at the assembly held on Friday.



Arielle Soloff

Christine Doyle answers questions.

this is also the first year that Amnesty International has addressed issues pertaining to the United States, senior and club co-president Arielle Soloff says, "Overall the week went well even though much of the [teaching] staff did not bring their classes to the assemblies, and people did not use tact when expressing different opinions."

Schedule for Human Rights Week	Monday Students for a Free Tibet	Tuesday Police Brutality and the Death Penalty	Wednesday Sexual Orientation & Human Rights and Hate Crimes on LI	Thursday Women's Rights	Friday International Human Rights in Perspective
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TEACHER'S

Science department head honored with position as consultant

by Anita Jose



Science department chairperson Mr. Phil Crivelli will be a consultant in Advanced Placement (AP) biology for the

Middle States Region of the College Board.

As a consultant, Mr. Crivelli will share his strategies and methods for teaching AP biology in one-day workshops. He will also offer suggestions to new AP biology teachers on how to prepare students for the AP examination. In particular, Mr. Crivelli will discuss the essay portion of the AP biology exam.

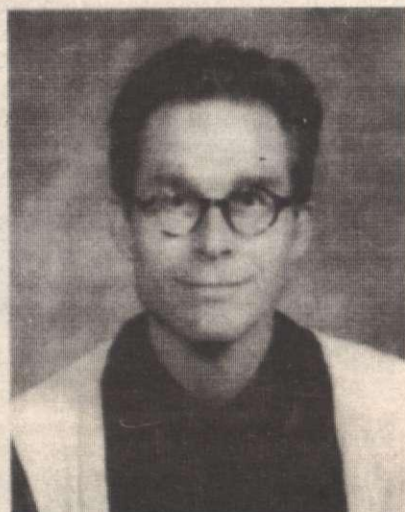
Before he conducts the workshops, Mr. Crivelli will attend a two-day training program in order to understand what material the workshops should cover.

Mr. Crivelli spent two years grading AP biology exams. He was one of a groups of high school teachers and college professors who grade the examination. From this pool, the Educational Testing Service (ETS) selected Mr. Crivelli to be a consultant. He received recognition for his excellence in teaching, knowledge of AP programs, and skills in evaluation and assessment.

Mr. Crivelli commented, "I was pleasantly surprised and honored by the offer, and I am looking forward to the opportunity."

Art teacher receives an honorable mention from All-USA Team

by Jennifer Chung



Art department chair Mr. Mark Graham received an honorable mention from this year's All-USA Team for his contribution to expanding students' minds.

The All-USA Team distinguishes those who have displayed expertise in their field and devotion and concern towards providing quality education for their students.

The team is highly selective and chose only thirty-five teachers across the nation for an honorable mention. School administrators, students, student's parents, colleagues, or family members nominated 649 teachers in total.

Mr. Graham was recognized in *USA TODAY* for his feat; he was one out of the two educators from New York selected for an honorable mention.

When asked how he felt about receiving the honor, Graham replied, "Most of the good things a teacher does no one ever sees...the important things in life are sometimes the small simple things that the world does not usually even consider...life is so short and art takes so long."

New gym teacher joins staff of physical education department

by Christina Kim



Physical education teacher Mr. Eric Gottesman recently joined the athletic department, succeeding retired teacher Mr. Mike Rayfield.

During the afternoon Mr. Gottesman

teaches roller skating, weight training, and basketball classes at Schreiber. He also teaches physical education at Daly Elementary School during the early part of the school day.

Mr. Gottesman taught for two years at Roslyn Middle School and Malverne High School before he decided to come to Schreiber this year. He majored in physical education and adapted education at State University at Cortland in 1996.

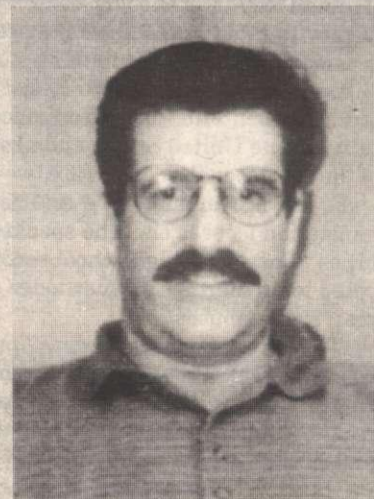
Describing his first impression of Schreiber, Gottesman commented, "Students and staff were very helpful."

Inspired by his father, who is a health teacher at Malverne High School, Mr. Gottesman has first-hand experience on the rewards of teaching and the value of a teacher's relationship with his students. His goal is to teach his students the importance of health and physical activity. He stated, "I want my students to be conscious about their personal health and fitness."

Mr. Gottesman also wishes for his students to develop a work ethic and responsibility, which are important to all aspects of life. Furthermore, he wants them to learn how to work with others with greater cooperation.

Teacher retires after long career Suffolk awards athletic director

by Jessica Ansel



Physical education teacher Mr. Mike Rayfield retired from the Schreiber athletic department this year.

Mr. Rayfield has been a physical education teacher for approximately thirty years. During those years he demonstrated dedication to his students, and his presence will be sorely missed.

Mr. Rayfield taught various classes within the department. It has been some time since he decided to retire from his position.

by Anita Jose

The Suffolk Zone of the New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Service voted to honor Athletic Director Ms. Rose Bonanno with the Service Award for Suffolk County in November of this year.

Ms. Bonanno served as the director of physical education, health education, and athletics in the Bay Shore School District. She often assisted other districts whose directors or physical education teachers asked for her advice and help to improve their own physical education programs.

Ms. Bonanno also created the Peer AIDS Education Program, wherein high school students educate eighth graders about AIDS prevention. She conducted presentations concerning the program for high schools that wished to emulate it.

In addition to her position as director for the Bay Shore district, Ms. Bonanno served as the Physical Education Resource Network (PERN) director for Suffolk County. Through this position she represents Suffolk County in this statewide organization.

The Service Award is the highest recognition given by the Suffolk Zone and is awarded to people who have served the profession and the zone in an outstanding manner.

Clubs participate in annual winter window painting

by Brian Mak

The Student Council sponsored the annual window painting in the school cafeteria on December 9.

An assortment of clubs such as Drama Club, Latin Club, S.A.F.E., Students Musicians Organization, Student Outreach participated in this painting soirée. The S.A.F.E. window portrayed the ghetto style of keeping our environment safe. Student Outreach's window depicted the scene of saving children's lives while keeping the holiday spirit. The Drama Club showed us that "All the world is a stage....the show must go on."

Window painting has been a Schreiber "ritual" and is one of the few events that students enthusiastically participate in and show true school spirit. The participants were served refreshments of apple and orange juice. The students, as always at window painting, were filled with spirit and energy. Due to their efforts, the Schreiber cafeteria is filled with depictions as a result of our lovely spirit within our hearts.



Many clubs participated at the window painting. Above are the windows created by AIDS Awareness, Student Council, and Port Light. The AIDS Awareness window features a Christmas wreath. Student Council's window portrays an individual reaching his arms toward the sky. Port Light's window displays various individuals engaged in different activities to convey a theme of "A Closer Look." The large amount of student participation proves that the winter window painting event produces a large amount of school spirit.

Girls' varsity basketball team forced to practice within school lobby

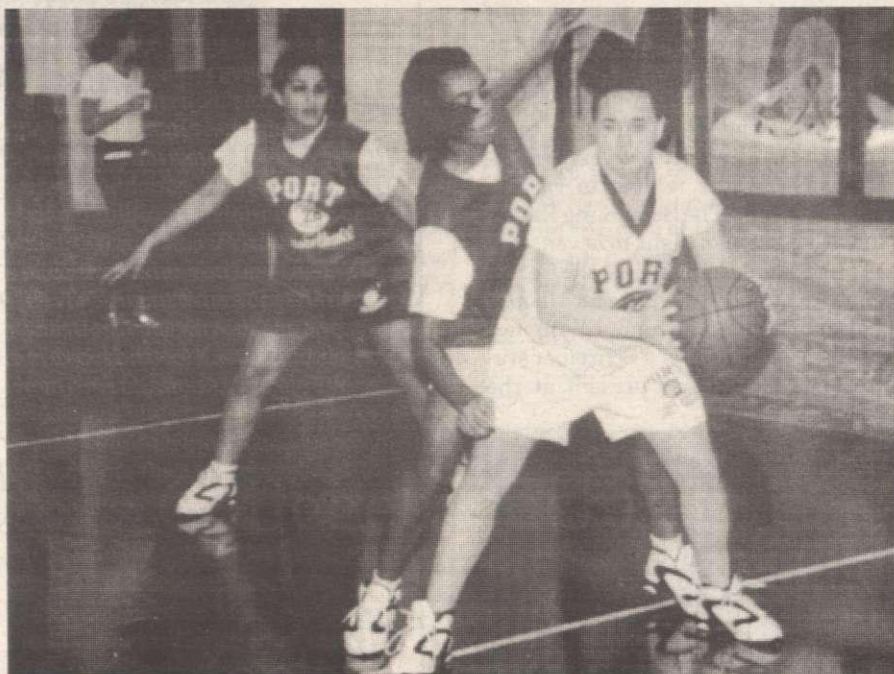
by Ben Brod

In an odd turn of events, the girls varsity basketball team held its practice in the lobby on December 10, the night before the Lady Vikings Tipoff Tournament.

This dilemma resulted from the displacement caused by the wrestling match held in the gymnasium that afternoon. The basketball team was transported to Sousa to use its facilities, but found that a fourth grade CYO team had previously been given the right to use Sousa's gym. The team returned to Schreiber, set up tape on the lobby floor, and ran practice plays.

Ms. Rose Bonnano, the district athletic director, indicated that this was a miscommunication that would not occur in the future. To prevent this from happening in the future, Bonanno has planned to meet with community representatives and allocate the gym space. In the past, gym space was allocated without consideration of possible overlaps.

Ms. Bonnano expressed sympathy with the team and commented, "It's unfortunate that this happened. Schools are often placed in the role of centers of community life and can offer opportunities for student and adult activities. School activities



The girls' varsity basketball team runs practice plays in the lobby. After an administrative miscommunication, the team was forced to practice in the lobby.

should take precedence, but these situations can be resolved."

Ms. Bonnano also noted that the district had granted the use of the Sousa gymnasium to the basketball team, and that the district could not recant its obligation to the community by revoking this agreement.

Lady Vikings Coach Ms. Stephanie

Joannon and the team were disappointed over the issue.

Ms. Joannon commented, "We made the best of a bizarre situation. At least we got to run plays for our tournament [Saturday]."

Senior Margaret Garafalo vehemently stated, "It's absurd that we can't use our own school's facilities."

Latin students celebrate Saturnalia

by Christina Chung

The annual Saturnalia celebration, whose theme this year is "Heroes," took place within the Schreiber cafeteria on December 17.

This year Latin students participated in a variety of events such as contests and games. Contests included competitions for Mr. and Ms. Rome, storytelling, pantomime, singing, costumes, posters, and jokes. Games include Coke and Pepsi and a relay race.

The Saturnalia celebration also featured a video created by Latin students that portrayed their version of a piece of Latin literature.

Students came to the celebration dressed in togas. They also brought and enjoyed food at the festivities.

Judges for the contests include Principal Dr. Sid Barish, Latin teacher Ms. Ruth Haukeland, and former Latin students.

Saturnalia is an ancient holiday celebrated in honor of Saturn, the Latin god of the harvest and of the universe.

MADD broadens students' knowledge of drinking and driving

by Ben Brod

Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD), in collaboration with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), sponsored a panel discussion aimed at educating students of the hazards of drunk driving on December 14.

Included in the panel were four speakers. Two of the speakers were a mother and her permanently damaged son, who was severely injured after being hit by a drunk driver.

A third speaker was a postal worker who was crushed by the car of an intoxicated individual. He sustained massive injuries and underwent years of physical therapy.

The fourth speaker in the panel was an individual who had experienced the consequences of driving while intoxicated. She had severely injured herself and a passenger in addition to killing another individual. She was arrested for driving while intoxicated (DWI) and spoke out to the students as part of her parole.

SADD has sponsored this event for the past few years. The club is advised by Mr. Neil Miller and its student president is senior Aaron Shkuda.

Meet the Vikings Night boosts school spirit

by Joe Grogan

The first annual "Meet The Vikings Night" occurred in the Schreiber gymnasium on the evening of December 4.

The event launched this year's basketball season for the varsity, junior varsity 1, and junior varsity 2 teams. The event's activities included a varsity scrimmage, an alumni game, and raffles to raise money for the teams.

The first event was the alumni game. Many graduates of Schreiber, whose ages ranged from eighteen to eighty-five, attended the event to play and to show support for their alma mater. The two divisions in the alumni game consisted of recent graduates and of older graduates. Some of the more familiar players were former Schreiber basketball stars Rex Mayo and Anthony Davis, as well as Mr. C.J. Gober, the son of English teacher Mr. A.J. Gober.

"Meet The Vikings Night" raised money for the basketball teams through

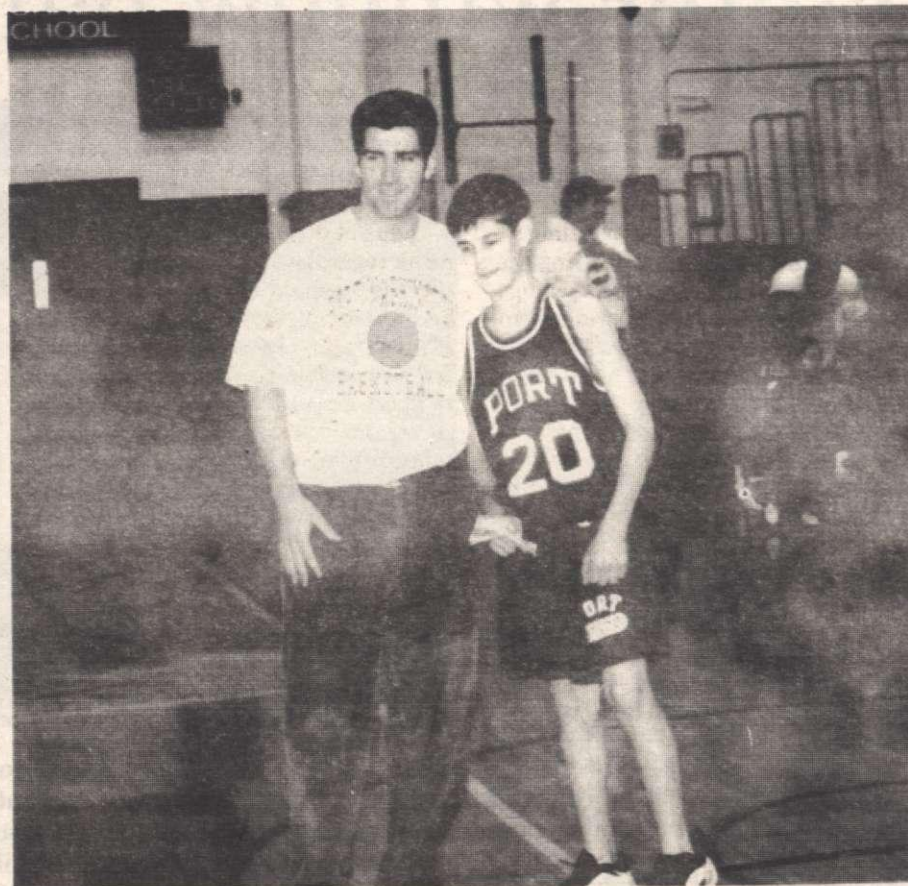
raffles with money prizes for the winners, tickets to NCAA basketball games, and a \$100 half-court shot. The lucky winner of the half-court shot was the son of head custodian Mr. Michael Sarluco.

During the event, head coach Mr. James Gilmartin presented a plaque to a Green Point National Bank representative to thank the bank's support of the varsity basketball team.

Following the half court shot, the junior varsity and varsity teams came out. Musical serenades by Busta Rhymes and Red Man accompanied the varsity team's introduction. This year the team consists of seniors Jim Cosolito, Anurag Vij, and Patrick White; and juniors Dennis Baldi, Ricky Brown, Sonny DeFeo, Brian Dermody, Jason Ham, Sung Leog, Ken Mandlekern, Justin O'Garrow, and Steve Osorio.

The night ended with a scrimmage between blue and white sections of the varsity basketball team. The game showcased the strength of this year's team and gave a preview of the coming season.

"Meet The Vikings Night" was one of the biggest school spirit events Schreiber has had. It had an enormous turnout and filled nearly every seat within the gymnasium.



Pictured above is Weber student Mike Sarlucco, Jr., who won the \$100 half court shot. Pictured next to his left is boys' varsity basketball coach James Gilmartin.

Cereal Supper to benefit the Sumeet Scholarship Fund

by Jessica Ansel

Approximately eighty people attended the Cereal Supper held in the cafeteria on December 10.

The Student Council served different breakfast cereals, including Cinnamon Toast Crunch and Frosted Flakes. The school cafeteria staff also served rolls, scrambled eggs, pancakes, bacon, and sausage.

Attendees played games at the Cereal Supper such as Twister and charades and partook in a whipped-cream eating contest.

In the whipped-cream eating contest, students were divided into two teams. The first team consisted of freshmen and sophomores, and the second consisted of juniors and seniors. With each team

lined up, the participants were asked to kneel on the floor with their hands behind their backs. Each person was given a bowl of whipped cream containing three M&M's. One at a time, students use their mouths to find at least one M&M and spit it into a bowl which was carried down the line. The juniors and seniors won the game when each member obtained an M&M.

During charades, students divided themselves into two teams named the "Screaming Eagles" and the "David Londons." Within one minute, a team had to guess the word which its team member was attempting to express silently. The words related to various breakfast items. The Screaming Eagles won with a score of eight to seven.

The Student Council held the Cereal Supper to support the Sumeet Chopra Scholarship fund. The fund will finance the college education of a Schreiber student. His family was present at the supper.



Students enjoy a game of twister at the cereal supper. The Student Council held the cereal supper in order to raise funds for the Sumeet Chopra scholarship fund.



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Debating the Drinking Age: Pros and Cons

Drinking age is arbitrary Drinkers face fatal consequences

by Alexandra Pavlakis

During Prohibition, people continued to drink. Regardless of government regulations, people will drink.

First of all, for the responsible people who don't drink, lowering the age limit would probably not change their decision. Regarding rides home after nights of drinking parties, there is always a taxi. That is not to say that the non-drinkers are not getting into cars with drunk people, but there are safe transportation alternatives.

Keep in mind that not every person who drinks necessarily wishes to get drunk every time or even at all. Teenagers outside of Port Washington, New York, and the United States often drink with no intention of getting drunk. Throughout Europe, youths might have a glass of wine at the dinner table, causing little harm to themselves or others.

Now don't get me wrong. I am not saying that the drinking age should be drastically lowered. But why twenty-one? It is like our off-campus rule. Can a senior really cross Port Boulevard safer than a junior can? Such a law with a set age gives the message that at age twenty-one, people can make responsible decisions. Since everyone experiences different things and matures at different rates, a designated drinking age is completely arbitrary. Someone who has never drunk before his twenty-first birthday doesn't know his tolerance level. A twenty year-old who has had a few drinks in the past may know his limit and therefore be able to drink responsibly.

Now, I can honestly say that I can't back myself up with a statistic or two because my argument doesn't require them. It really does come down to responsibility, but a twenty-one year-old is not necessarily more responsible than a twenty year-old.

by Brienne Bellavita

There has always been controversy over the drinking age. While many teenagers don't think that the drinking age should be twenty-one, I do.

I do not dismiss the fact that people drink regardless of the age limit, but there is a population which doesn't drink because it believes in obeying the law. If the drinking age were lowered, the few responsible people who don't drink might decide to go out and get drunk. As a result, what would happen to the number of responsible, sober people left to drive the drunk kids home? There would be no one left! This could then lead to an increased number of traffic accidents due to drunk driving.

As it is, over twenty percent of sixteen to twenty year-olds who died in 1997 were killed in car crashes due to drinking and driving. The number of intoxicated under-aged drivers in fatal crashes dropped fourteen point three percent from 1983 to 1994. That's the largest decrease in any age group during that time period. We can't afford to halt this progress. Lowering the drinking age would reverse the trend toward a reduction of horrible alcohol-related traffic deaths. People think that teenagers aren't listening to the facts and statistics about drinking; don't give in and believe that, because it's not true.

That is not all. Fifty-four percent of students who started drinking before the age of eighteen reported binge drinking at least once over a span of two weeks. Twenty-three percent of those who started drinking before age eighteen admitted to drinking three or more times in a period of two weeks.

There is absolutely no reason to change the drinking age. If people want to drink, they will. Despite all these facts and figures, it really all comes down to one thing: responsibility. The truth is that people under twenty-one are not responsible enough to drink. Most don't know their limits and will regret things they do while intoxicated later on.

Roving Reporter

Question: *How do you feel about changing the legal drinking age?*

"It doesn't matter what the age is, people will drink anyway."

- Davi Shy (freshman)

"Responsible drinkers will be responsible drinkers, no matter how old they are."

- Tom Manning (senior)

"If they raise the drinking age, then even more people will be tempted to drink, knowing that they have even longer to wait."

- Ruth Kleinman (sophomore)

"If you are old enough to vote and to die for your country, then you should also be able to drink."

- Joe Grogan (junior)

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What's the first 4-letter word you think of?



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should
think again...



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Toby's Corner: Topical Doggerel

"People Run So Far Away"

by Toby Benglesdorf

People run so far away,
Just to say, "Let's save the day."
But the problems are here,
Right here at home.

The natives are repressed,
And people shout, "Mao, arrest!"
But what about here?
Right here at home?

Freedom they have craved,
"Tibet can be saved!"
But first fix here,
Right here at home.



Students react to airing of Kevorkian video

CBS was right to show video

by Jason Gordon

On November 23, the CBS program "60 minutes" aired a very controversial segment that showed Dr. Jack Kevorkian's assistance of another suicide. A number of CBS affiliates around the country chose not to air the segment and to broadcast local news instead. I believe that if CBS deems that it is appropriate to air a segment, then all of the affiliates should air the segment as well. By blacking out this segment, the affiliates denied some viewers their right to witness the actions of Dr. Kevorkian.

Personally, I am against all kinds of censorship, whether on television, on the radio, in magazines, or on the internet. America claims to be a free country where people have the rights to their own beliefs and convictions. Therefore, I believe we have the right to see whatever we choose on television. When the decision is made by the broadcast network to air something, I believe we all have the right to view the material. We should be allowed to witness something controversial ourselves in order to make our own personal judgements, instead of relying on a spoon-fed opinion of some organization.

I understand that Dr. Kevorkian's assisted suicides may be difficult for some viewers to watch. Given that, if you do not want to watch something on television, the solu-

tion is simple: change the channel. However, if you do want to watch Dr. Kevorkian's assistance in suicide, then you should not have to be subjected to a blackout because the television producers in your area are conseravtives.

The actions of Dr. Kevorkian have always been very controversial and touchy subjects. There has been a proliferation of material relating to Dr. Kevorkian spread across the newspapers, airwaves, and Internet. Even with this flood of information, all of it comes from second hand sources. People have never had the means for judging Dr. Kevorkian themselves. They have instead been dependant on the reported information. Therefore, I support CBS's showing of Dr. Kevorkian's suicide tape.

CBS lacked dignity

Televised suicide crosses the line

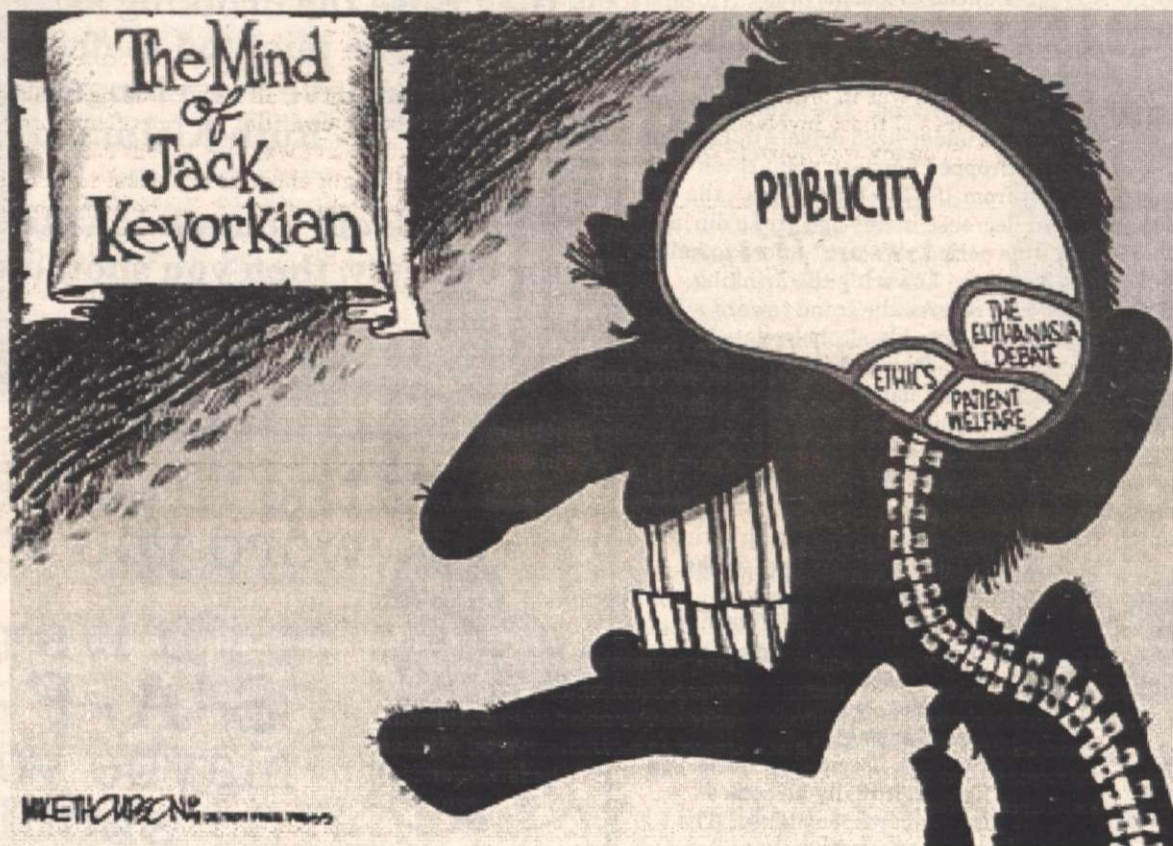
by Jill Nelson

The showing of Dr. Kevorkian's suicide video on CBS marked the breaking of another barrier in modern media. Unlike the barriers of language, kissing, and other actions previously considered unacceptable on cable television, this one should have been honored. I know in my heart that broadcasting the actual death of a human being on national television is wrong.

Please understand, I am not here to argue the merits of euthanasia or doctor assisted suicide, nor do I wish to contend with Dr. Kevorkian's methods. However, I am here to make the statement that the assisted suicide of a man should not be aired on television, even if it is news or it is done in order to make a point.

Since the boom of the television industry, censorship has existed. Sometimes things have been banned from television and sometimes they have been restricted to certain channels, such as pay-per-view or Playboy, or contained in certain hours, such as late night television programming. Just like pornography and extreme violence, I feel that things such as this should be restricted. I do agree that it is the right of all people to be able to have the freedom to choose what they watch on TV. Is it not enough that we can watch the violence and obscenity of The Jerry Springer Show? Were Linda Tripp's tapes of betrayal of Monica Lewinsky not enough? Watching someone willingly die on television is not only crossing the line; it is leaving it far behind.

We enjoy and appreciate the freedoms that are bestowed upon us as a society. However, displays such as this, which show no respect for human life, privacy, or dignity, threaten this very freedom. The television industry has an obligation to exercise good judgment and restraint over the things that it chooses to air. CBS failed to fulfill this obligation when it decided to show the death of Thomas Youk in order to increase its ratings.



Mike Thompson, The Detroit Free Press

Respect our armed forces

Anti-military propaganda shocks senior

by Shira Tolins

As I was walking down the street in New York City, someone handed me a pamphlet. Though I do not usually accept handouts, I did this time. When I had a chance to sit down, I read the flyer, which was entitled "Youth Peace" and had a dove on the cover. I was intrigued and thought that it might actually represent a good cause. I did not know how mistaken I was.

I opened the first flap which stated in bold letters, "Violence is at epidemic levels throughout the world. Violence is destroying schools, families, communities, and nations." I

thought that this statement was valid. Underneath the introduction were statistics about children who commit suicide, who are killed by firearms, who are arrested, who are abused or neglected, and so on. After reading these figures, I believed that "Youth Peace" was worth my time.

When I opened the pamphlet fully, I read a statement which led me to write this article. One of the goals stated in this pamphlet was to "stop society from turning youth into gang members, criminals, or soldiers." This statement infuriates me because the organization which released this pamphlet equates United States soldiers with gang members and criminals. The men and women who protect our country deserve our

respect and thanks, not our disdain and ingratitude.

This pamphlet disguises its propaganda under the pretense of an anti-violence organization. It in-

Nuclear weapons are necessary when a dictator like Saddam Hussein threatens the world with weapons of mass destruction.

The pamphlet is hard to recognize as propaganda at first because it does contain some valid ideas. It asks the readers to join in the fight against sexism, homophobia, class discrimination and exploitation. It also says to protest violent and sexist toys. These are all valuable ideas. However, these valid arguments are used to camouflage their

'The men and women who protect our country deserve our respect and thanks, not our disdain and ingratitude.'

propaganda against the United States government and military. Although their freedom of speech must be protected, their propaganda should be exposed. In a free society, citizens must be able to discern between truth and distortions.

propaganda against the United States government and military. Although their freedom of speech must be protected, their propaganda should be exposed. In a free society, citizens must be able to discern between truth and distortions.

Senior demands safer site for student parking

by Syd Glasser

We are all familiar with the complaints about the Monfort parking lot. The stairs, the schlep, the stairs, its annoying location, the stairs. But seniors, have you ever really thought about your safety while you're walking down to Monfort to pick up your car after school?

The Monfort parking lot is practically tucked away in a corner of Port Washington. With the new path which leads behind the tennis courts, you are practically invisible to the school in a matter of minutes and then, once you are down there, you are practically invisible to anyone else. Did you ever once think, even for a split second, that something could happen to you on your way down there and that nobody would know? You could trip, fall down the stairs, or even worse, get assaulted. Due to its "hidden" location, nobody would be there to see you, let alone help you.

Take, for example, the fight which broke out on November 18. Both teachers and security guards were notified about the occurrence and yet neither chose to take action. Then, the next day, history repeated itself. This time, with plenty of talk in school and a slightly larger crowd, another fight

'Something has to be done to insure our safety at the Monfort parking lot, at least right after school.'

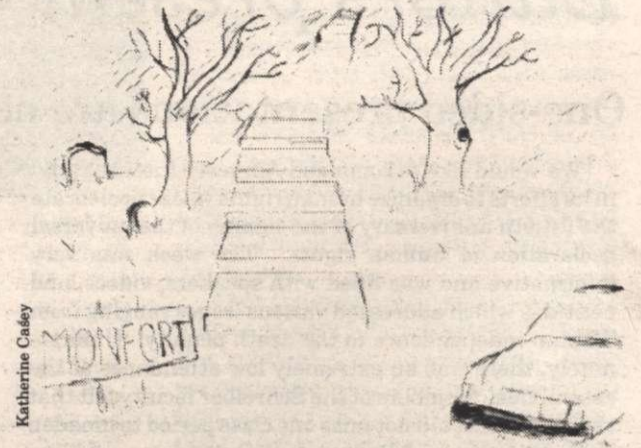
broke out at Monfort. However, also at the scene was assistant principal Mr. Bob Bracken, who held a clipboard. I assume that this was in order to take down the names of those involved. As I passed by him on my way down to the

lot, I wondered what good his clipboard was going to do. If somebody has his or her heart set on beating somebody else up, obviously that person is not concerned with the punishment which may follow later on if he or she is caught.

I see how Mr. Bracken did all that he could possibly do, but at the same time I know that I did not feel safe walking down to my car. I also know I felt very uneasy having to witness a fight involving numerous people.

From a discussion I had with assistant principal Dr. Rita Albert, I found out that the authorities both suspended and arrested people involved in the fight. While she tried to reassure me about my safety at Monfort, all I could do was think about how little protection I really had when I was going down there. I thought about how the fights had occurred right after school when it was still light out and I thought about the minuscule security granted to passersby right after school. Then I thought about the fact that I, along with many other students, often leave school late because of clubs or

sports. The path down to Monfort is dark, along with the stairs and the lot itself. Anything could happen to me or my classmates on our way down there.



As I mentioned earlier, an incident could go unnoticed, maybe even until the next morning.

Something has to be done to insure our safety at the Monfort parking lot, at least right after school. There should be no reason for us to be afraid to go down there right after school while the sun is still shining. Nor should I have to wake up early just so that I can get a parking spot on Bogart or risk detention for parking on campus.

Student reviews *Bright Angel Time* Junior finds a must-read in the school library

by Melissa Brewster

It is rare that I have the opportunity to read books purely for fun. However, I was recently in the Schreiber library when I came across a book with a cool cover and an intriguing title—*Bright Angel Time*. The temptation was too much to resist. In the book, Martha McPhee tells a fascinating story, set in the early 1970s, of young Kate and her two sisters, who embark on a journey with their mother in search of a better life. They follow the spiritual and mysterious Anton, who introduces them to a Utopian lifestyle based on freedom and love. *Bright Angel Time*, McPhee's first novel, is an enjoyable page-turner, perfect for a cold and rainy December day.

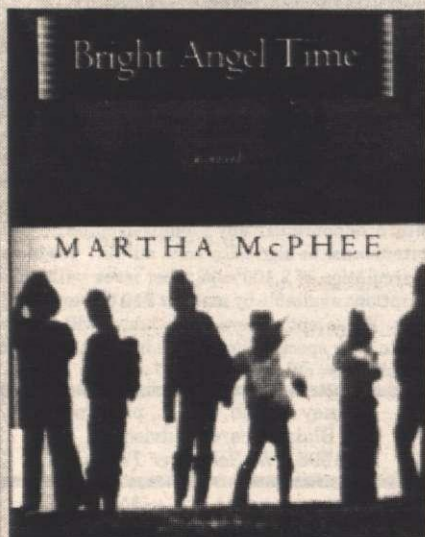
Bright Angel Time begins when

Kate is eight, Julia is ten, and Jane is twelve. After their father leaves them, their mother falls in love with Anton, a hippie, who is divorced with five children. Anton and Kate's mother decide to unite their broken families. They instruct the children to be completely open and to love and trust each other. Kate says, "We were to love this new world, love it instantly and permanently...Love, simple as that, as if the word meant *eat* or *breathe*."

The families travel in a camper, and Anton preaches religion and sexual equality. Life is dramatically different with Anton. Kate frequently recalls her memories with her father, a geologist, who taught them about rocks, particularly Bright Angel Shale, a layer of rock in the Grand Canyon.

Anton exposes them to sex, drugs, alcohol, and gambling. Julia adapts to her new life quickly, but Jane, the eldest, struggles to accept Anton and her father's decision.

Kate's sincere voice shines through as she relates her thoughts honestly and truthfully. McPhee's unusual and humorous book is very "real" and reveals the difficulties families experience after divorce. The characters, their troubles, and their concerns are believable. *Bright Angel Time* offers a glimpse at a transient and alternative life almost unimaginable. It is a fresh and colorful novel, well-worth the read.



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Amnesty education: is it right for everybody?

Editors present opposing views

One-sided presentations are necessary for rights awareness

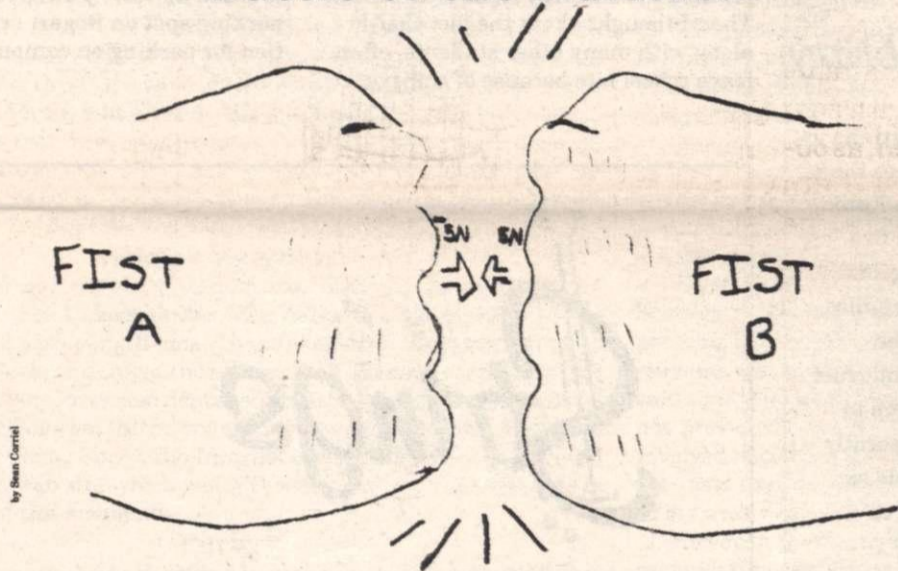
We would like to commend Amnesty International in its efforts to organize human rights week to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the universal declaration of human rights. The week was very informative and was filled with speakers, videos, and petitions which addressed various issues ranging from Tibetan independence to the death penalty. Unfortunately, there was an extremely low attendance at the assemblies. Members of the Schreiber faculty felt that the students could not miss one class period to broaden their horizons and hear a speaker address an issue unrelated to their curriculum. Certain teachers who could relate the assemblies to the classroom chose not to because students would miss a precious hour of class and not be able to meet Regents or AP requirements.

Amnesty International's purpose in organizing this week was to make students aware of human rights abuses. Assemblies only represented one side because

there is no justification for the genocide of 1.2 million Tibetans, the brutal beating of unarmed civilians, the murder of people based on their sexual orientation, or the denial of basic human rights for women. The assemblies from throughout the week featured speakers who allowed for an open forum at the end of their speech. Amnesty's opinions were not forced on anyone, and all students had the right to accept or reject the organization's views. Many students felt that Amnesty International was trying to brainwash Schreiber's student body into accepting all of its beliefs. Most fail to realize that Amnesty is an organization whose main purpose is to fight for freedom of dissent worldwide. By hosting human rights week, the club tried to educate the Schreiber population about human rights abuses and incite people to become involved in preventing these abuses.

—Arielle Soloff

Battle of the Editors....



Students must be presented with more information

Many students had strong reactions to the Human Rights Awareness Week held last week. Many presentations were offered to the student body which dealt with a large number of social issues, including women's rights, sexually-related hate crimes, the situation in Tibet, and human rights violations.

While we at the *Times* commend the actions of Amnesty International and Students for a Free Tibet, we are beginning to see some problems with the way material is presented. The difficulty with these presentations is that the material they show is relatively new to most of the students who attend them. In addition, usually the presentations only consist of one speaker from a particular organization (usually Amnesty or SFT). That being the case, students often walk away from those meetings deeply affected by what the speaker had to say, which is a tribute to the speaker and what he or she has to say. But the problem with this is that students often close their minds after that: they form strong, often extreme opinions about certain things, and retain those opinions for an extended period of time without learning more. Hypothetically, take a presentation on the Middle East: suppose a speaker from Amnesty International were to come and present a speech and a video about the harsh living conditions that Palestinians are experiencing in some parts of Israel. Faced with no other information, a student who had never been exposed to the issue

would immediately think to himself, "I can't believe the Israeli government would treat people that way!" and form an extremely negative opinion about the country and the Jewish leadership. However, such a presentation neglects to mention the long-standing territorial conflict between the Palestinians and the Israelis, or the numerous terrorist acts taken by organizations such as the PLO in order to get land ownership from Israel. Such a video might also make a point that the Israeli government is opposed to allowing the Palestinians to create their own state, and this would heavily influence a student's opinion of Israelis and Jewish people if the video did not mention the incredible security risk such a state would pose to Israel.

The potential for racist or prejudice feelings is astounding, and is terrifying when one considers the implications. "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing" is an old adage, and it applies very well to a situation such as this. While Amnesty International claims merely to point out human rights violations, it is doing the people whom they are attempting to educate a great disservice. Amnesty, Students for a Free Tibet, and other groups that sponsor speakers at Schreiber have a responsibility to present students with enough background information so that they do not merely receive only half of a particular issue.

—Charles Geizhals

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Censorship unfairly limits information for students

Censorship is a spectre in America; it haunts every aspect of society, from what we read in the morning paper, to what we see on the evening news, to what we hear on the radio, and to what we access on the Internet. At its heart, censorship, under the guise of "protecting" people from the harshness and obscenity of the world, is in fact preventing us from gaining any semblance of informed knowledge.

The First Amendment was created to protect, among other things, the right to freedom of speech and information. The possibility that these rights could be threatened with current legislation is truly frightening (see centerfold article on the Child Online Protection Act). The fact that our government passed a law prohibiting minors to enter certain Web sites is anathema to the libertarian in all of us. We believe that it is the prerogative of the parent to decide what is suitable for a child to access on the Internet, not the right of the government. Only a parent should have that ability.

Not only is censorship a blight on the Constitution but a morally reprehensible position. It does not permit people to make their own decisions, as they do not have all information at hand. How can people distinguish their own beliefs if all facts have not been presented to them? As writer John Milton once said in an attack

on censorship, "He that can apprehend and consider vice with all her baits and seeming pleasure, and yet abstain, and yet distinguish, and yet prefer that which is truly better, he is the true wayfaring Christian." Although religious belief is of course largely irrelevant to this issue, the gist of Milton's argument is correct: "good" and "evil" can only be understood in relation to one another.

Without full awareness of one side, a person cannot fully recognize the other. Conversely, someone with all facts presented who chooses a "good" path is truly knowledgeable and virtuous. Even Milton, who was a political conservative and a Puritan, recognized the evils of censorship, and all the problems it had in its power effect.

What does all this have to do with censorship? Well, as obscure as John Milton may be, he

certainly has a viewpoint which supports freedom of speech and information in modern times: trying to protect people from vulgarity and ugliness in the world through censorship, whether on the Internet or in a newspaper, is not a noble cause, but an ill-informed one, destined to instill ignorance in all of its victims.

Mail Box

At this holiday season, I want you to know that kindness and caring abide at Schreiber High School. Nine days into the school year, I dislocated my kneecap. I was on crutches five weeks and used a cane for four weeks.

I cannot begin to tell you how wonderful the students have been to me. My classes took turns making my cup of tea and getting me ice packs. My students went to the office, copy center and library for me. Pamela Riquelme got my lunch for me everyday. John Hernandez walked me out to the bus everytime we went to the PreK. Former students would stop by to check up on me. Students I don't even know would come up to me in the hall and ask how I was doing or if they could help me.

In other words, I couldn't have done it without them. They made it so easy for me to come to school each day. Thanks to all of you. I will never forget your kindness. It meant so much to me.

I wish you all the happiest of holidays and the best of everything in 1999.

Fondly,

Sally Reinhardt

Home Economics Department

Gail's High School Experience



Student behavior is deplorable

Student behavior at the period five human rights assembly on Friday, December 11, demonstrated that basic respect and civility are waning at Schreiber. When we have the opportunity to listen to a speaker, it is our duty to treat that speaker and his or her presentation with respect, whether we agree with the speaker's views or not. Students made inappropriate comments and were rude and disrespectful of both Humans Rights Week and Amnesty International.

Students' remarks reflect the school and its reputation.

Schreiber has a good name, and it is absurd that students should seek to destroy that. Last Friday afternoon, some students embarrassed our school. If students continue to be insolent, we will no longer have the opportunity to attend assemblies and listen to guest speakers. As high school students, we must prove our responsibility and maturity so that we can earn privileges in other areas as well.

We could all improve in manners and common respect. It behooves us all to follow elementary rules of public conduct.

The Great American Censorship

by Kate Pedatella

Censorship has always been a controversial issue. It threatens the constitutional rights to speak and hear others speak, to write and read what others have written, which we are all supposed to possess. There have recently been several attempts to change these rights, with many influential national groups crying "Censorship!" and fighting to protect the ability to exercise the First Amendment. Others claim that new limits are necessary to protect integrity. Government officials and civil libertarians alike are waging a bitter fight in Congress, and at the highest levels of the judiciary system to determine whether or not the citizens of the United States have as much freedom as they thought. This battle is especially fierce whenever minors come into play. With groups ranging from the American Civil Liberties (ACLU) to school boards to public libraries doing their best to protect the interests of minors, the essential question at hand is how to protect children and the right to free speech and information.

A new emphasis has been placed on the Internet as both a means for useful research as well as a conduit for "tasteless pursuits." This dichotomy is the focus of several cases and a law which President Clinton recently signed. President Clinton signed the Child Online Protection Act (COPA) as a component of the Budget Bill on October 22. The Act shields children under the age of seventeen from visual or written information that is considered excessively graphic and sexual. The law applies to commercial web sites which specialize in selling pornography and could be considered "harmful to minors." This phrase entails anything which deals with sexual content in a manner devoid of redeeming value. The law would mandate that web sites require credit card numbers or other methods of identification to bar minors from entering. Violation of this law would be punishable with prison time of up to six months and fines up to \$50,000.

The COPA was supposed to take effect on November 20, but civil rights groups and web site owners received a temporary injunction on the act on November 19. The ACLU and a group called the Internet Content Coalition, which includes such groups as MSNBC, Time Inc., Playboy Enterprises, The New York Times Electronic Media Company, Salon Magazine, Powell's Bookstore, Philadelphia Gay News, and OBGYN.net filed the suit against the COPA. The plaintiffs in this case maintain that the COPA violates the First Amendment's provisions on free speech. An often brought-up criticism is that the COPA would punish news web sites which published the independent counsel report detailing controversial sexual information about President Clinton's relationship with Monica Lewinsky. The brief which the ACLU filed accused the COPA of unconstitutionally censoring a broad range of information which adults should have the right to access.

Other opponents of the law point to an uncomfortable similarity the COPA has with the Communications Decency Act (CDA), an ill-fated bill which the Supreme Court nixed last year. This bill, unlike the COPA, would have applied to both Web sites and e-mail, and had a much broader definition of material that was "indecent." The Court ruled that the CDA was far too restrictive on the Constitutional rights of adults to practice free speech and access free information. Although narrower in scope than the CDA, ACLU spokespeople claim that the COPA is as flawed as the old one, and that it will not simply apply to web sites but also any e-mail, chat rooms, and bulletin boards which are related to those sites.

Representative James Greenwood commented, "I believe the COPA carefully balances the constitutional rights of adults to view certain materials with the compelling governmental interest in protecting children from harmful materials." Experts in Internet law claim that the COPA has "ample precedent" from previous statutes which prevent stores from displaying illicit materials freely to minors. Spokespeople for the COPA's supporters in Congress draw the conclusion that, just as minors cannot buy a sexually explicit periodical in a store, so should they not be able to access one online. Supporters of the COPA merely want to extend real-world restrictions to the Internet. The question the Congressmen ask is why higher the higher courts should not do the same for what they see as an analogous case in the Internet.

The Coalition plaintiffs in this suit have suggested an alternate method of protecting minors from sexually explicit material: the private filtering system. The plaintiffs claim that filtering systems are the "least restrictive means" for protecting children. COPA supporters, on the other hand, state that filtering systems are insufficient to block all inappropriate sites. They also maintain that filters work only on individually computers or networks, and that children can simply go to an unrestricted library, school, or neighbor's house to find unsuitable information.

This issue is still unsettled, but the United States District Court has provided a temporary restraining order on the law. This case promises to be a long court battle, inaugurating what could become an entirely new arena for First Amendment law.

by Melissa Brewster

Is there censorship in our libraries? Should censorship be permitted in a free society? Apparently, local communities do not think so. Libraries in nearby areas are strongly against censorship and advocate freedom of information for all.

In accordance with the Library Bill of Rights which the Council of the American Library Association (ALA) adopted on June 18, 1948, the Port Washington Public Library's philosophy is: "We believe the role of a public library in a free society is to hold open a window through which men and women may freely view the whole panorama of human thought and experience in literature, science, art, philosophy, religion, history and politics..." The library's mission is to represent the needs and interests of all Port Washington residents.

Ms. Suzanne Ponzini, the young adult librarian at the Port Washington Public Library, recalls that in the twenty-two years she has worked there no book has ever been removed from the shelves. Her position on censorship is that it should be avoided at all costs because it decides for other people what they should and should not know.

A professional library director is responsible for the selection of library materials. He or she may authorize other professionals and reviewers to provide a balance of opinion. The Director selects books for the Port Library's collection based on reviews and a set of criteria including accuracy, comprehensiveness, format, quality, interest to community, permanent value, popular demand, price, and relation to existing collection. The Policy on Controversial Materials and Use of Library Material states: "Selections will be made solely on the merits of the works in relation to building of the collection...not on the basis of anticipated approval or disapproval."

If a patron requests to reconsider library materials and the complainant cannot resolve the concern with the librarian who ordered the book for the collection, the patron must complete a *Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials*. A committee will reconsider the item in question and submit a formal recommendation to the library director, who will make the final decision.

Unlike schools, public libraries do not act *in loco parentis* (literally, "in place of parents"). There is no filtering system on the Internet, which is available to all patrons. Although the library staff requests that children under the age of thirteen use the Internet in the Children's Room as opposed to the Reference Room, it is the parent's responsibility to watch over the material their children access. Likewise, at the Bryant Library in Roslyn, it is the parent's responsibility to restrict access to their children.

Each year, the Merrick Public Library holds a Banned Book Week from late October into early November to celebrate intellectual freedom. The Board of Trustees invites guest speakers and displays books which have been challenged and denied public access in the past. According to Mr. Bob Ludemann in the Reference Department at the Merrick Public Library, Banned Book Week produces a positive response from the community.

Policies at public libraries differ from those at school libraries. In *Board of Education v. Pico U.S. 853* (1982), the United States held that the school board has the authority to remove books it deems inappropriate from the school library. The board could not remove books to restrict social, political, or moral ideas of which the school board simply disapproves. The board can remove books with vulgar language or books which do not satisfy pre-determined criteria for educational suitability. Similarly, in *Bicknell v. Vergennes Union High School Bd. of Directors*, 638 F.2d (2nd Cir. 1980), the court stated that the school board had the right to remove books with vulgar or sexually explicit content.

The Schreiber library adheres to the ALA's Bill of Rights. Library Media specialist Ms. Kate Herz selects books to purchase for the school's collection based on reviews from the *School Library Journal*, *Booklist*, *Kliatt*, *The New York Times Book Review*, and *Voice of Youth Advocates* (VOYA). Ms. Herz, who has worked at Schreiber for three years, has never received a request from a parent to remove a book, but if the situation arose, the complainant would have to fill out a reconsideration form. In Library Media specialist Mr. John King's twenty-five years at Schreiber, the school board has never prevented the library from purchasing a particular book.

The Great Neck High School libraries adhere to the selection principles endorsed by the American Association of School Librarians. The ALA Library Bill of Rights contends that it is the responsibility of the school library "...To provide materials on opposing sides of controversial issues so that young citizens may develop under guidance

the practice of critical reading a

Great Neck North High School that Great Neck has a sophisticated edge, the school board has never collection. Parents may file comp

Manhasset High School print that no textbook has ever been cally, a school board can remove a out violating the First Amendme legitimate pedagogical concerns F.2d 1517 (11th Cir. 1989).

English teacher Ms. Jane Peterson member protested the use of an e it was "Communist." However, a the textbook deemed it entirely

Formerly, the Manhasset school tenth grade social studies student required reading list. Parents e *Pillars of the Earth*, which descri of a rape scene and what they th The school board did not remove offered a wider range of choices to school board responded positive

Ms. Peterson said, "I don't thi ers do have the responsibility to

A school district may censor c

Many attempts at restricting the Internet h include a federal law prohibiting minors u sites with sexually explicit material and serve as "red stamps," prohib

are school-sponsored. The Uniti school need not tolerate student "basic educational mission" in *H 484 U.S. 260* (1988). The court "editorial control over the style a sponsored expressive activities ably related to legitimate pedag

At Schreiber, students are re paper. First, section editors edit editors and the copy editor. *Th teacher Mr. Blaine Bocarde, is n cess. At Manhasset High School tion editors, the co-editors, the English teacher Ms. Dana Gros Vasta claims that the series of c and content only.*

Mr. Vasta, who is against ce not censored articles for publica must continue to review all arti dancy."

Prospective editors and neww iting process and, to the best of complained about the structure

A large majority of professio sorship in all its forms. For scho censorship. Administrators, libr tract and surrounding districts l intellectual freedom. Our librari for different audiences, and with which are offered comes the res ture in their selections.

Debate: What are our rights?

thinking..."

librarian Ms. Janet Friedman avers that the library collection. To her knowledge, no book from the library has been censored, but she has not received any complaints, but she has not received any complaints. Mr. Michael Keany confirmed that no book has been censored at the high school. Technically, no previously-approved textbook has been removed for reasons "reasonably related to the book's content based on *Virgil v. School Bd.*, 862

Mr. Keany explained that a community member complained about a community economics textbook because he thought the textbook committee appointed to investigate was inappropriate.

The school board mandated that ninth and tenth graders read two out of three books on a list. He expressed concern with Ken Follett's *Jane Eyre* because of its life in the middle ages, because of the language. *Billars of the Earth* from the list but not *Jane Eyre*. In this way, the Manhasset school board is responsive to parent's concerns.

Some books should be censored. Teachers should make thoughtful choices, though. The school should curtail student publications if they

by Melissa Brewster

As the Internet becomes a valuable educational tool, school districts are forced to make critical decisions as to whether the Internet should be censored. Our neighboring communities have dealt with this issue in a variety of ways.

The Great Neck School District's Computer Network and Internet Acceptable Use Policy requires students entering the third, sixth, and ninth grades to submit an "Individual Use Authorization Form" signed by the student and a parent. The policy states that the Internet is "an integral part of our curriculum." A student who completes the form and hands it in may use the Internet independently during free periods or before and after school. A student may not do independent research on the Internet without written consent. However, classroom activities do not require parental consent.

The Great Neck Board of Education approved the Internet policy with input from teachers, parents, and students. Great Neck uses a district-wide filtering system known as BESS. The filtering company, N2H2, updates the proxy-server on a daily basis. It blocks pornography and nudity, sexual topics, violence, crime, drug use, tastelessness, profanity, discrimination, "high-risk sites," and other inappropriate material.

The advantage to BESS is that teachers have accounts which allow them to bypass the entire filtering system or restrictions on specific sites from any computer on one or more computers for designated lengths of time. If a student is conducting legitimate research on a topic which BESS blocks, he or she may ask the librarian or teacher to bypass the system. Mr. Mark Epstein, Great Neck District Coordinator of Technology, commented, "We felt that this was a compromise."

There are ways to beat the system if a student is conducting research for educational purposes. For example, a student can access information on sexually transmitted diseases by typing in "transmitting diseases" but not "sexually transmitted diseases" because of the word "sex."

Teachers, especially those at the Great Neck High School, can request to alter the filtering system by e-mailing the addresses of sites which they feel are appropriate for student usage to N2H2. N2H2 will then respond within twenty-four hours. In addition, students can record sites which they feel would be appropriate for general usage in a notebook, and a teacher or librarian reviews them.

Some high school students initially expressed displeasure with the filtering system, and several negative editorials have appeared in the school newspaper. Yet, as Mr. Epstein argues, students' freedoms of speech and constitutional rights are curtailed daily. For instance, a student may not stand up in the middle of a Regents' exam to express his or her beliefs, albeit the first amendment

Cova Mazer

Some bills have come forth from Congress recently. Some bills would curtail the age of seventeen from accessing Web filtering systems in libraries. These attempts would curtail free speech and information.

The States Supreme Court held that a speech that is inconsistent with its content. *Wood School District v. Kuhlmeier* stated that educators may exercise content of student speech in school, as long as their actions are reasonable concerns.

responsible for editing the school newspaper, which then go to two senior editors. *Schreiber Times's* advisor, English is a part of the regular editing process. Articles go through appropriate reviewers (librarian Mr. Ed Vasta and principal), as well as the principal. Mr. Vasta checks and balances are for accuracy

oversight, said that the principal has no oversight. When asked why the principal has no oversight, he said: "It seems like a redundancy."

paper staff are instructed in the editing process. The editors' knowledge, nobody has oversight of the newspaper.

Teachers and librarians are against censorship, the law allows certain degrees of censorship, and teachers in this school district have chosen not to limit student's independence. A wide range of interests is represented in the wide range of reading materials available to the students to be made

of the Constitution guarantees freedom of speech. Indeed, for every argument there is a counter-argument.

Last year, a student, a parent, and Mr. Epstein engaged in a debate about Great Neck's Internet policy. Parents have also supported the policy at Parent Teacher Association meetings. Thus far, Mr. Epstein has not received phone calls from parents expressing concern about the Internet policy. Some students have expressed displeasure with the system, but the majority of students do not have any problems with it because it has not hindered their research.

Mr. Epstein does not believe that the filtering system is a form of censorship. He feels it is necessary to block illegal as well as "harmful" information on how to hack a computer system, to pirate software, or to gamble on-line. He also realizes the potential for a student to stumble upon pornographic information accidentally. He commented, "No-filtering would not work here and places a tremendous burden on the teachers."

Mr. Epstein admits that no system is foolproof. "Every filtering system is imperfect. All [systems] will block things which they shouldn't and let through some sites which they shouldn't." Overall, Mr. Epstein is happy with the system and feels strongly that there should be some filtering system. "I have yet to see a better alternative."

Currently, the Roslyn School District lacks a definitive district-wide internet policy. There is no filtering system, and no e-mail or chat rooms are available. Roslyn's Technology Committee has recommended that there be no filtering system, rather freedom of information for all. According to Ms. Barbara Dannay, District Computer Director, "At the high school level, the Committee feels that the ethics and values of our students and the trust we have in them

Continued on Page 16

Kate Pedatella

Internet freedom is possibly one of the most undecided and problematic fields of constitutional law in the present legal and social climate. The question of whether or not people have the right to access freely information on the Internet is one which has caused a tangled controversy everywhere from Congress to community public libraries. Indeed, it is in local libraries where what many see as the gauge for Internet freedom in the United States will be set, and it is there that the American public may most widely feel the implications of restricted Internet access.

The crucial rights of libraries and patrons to provide freely and access internet information has come under fire recently with many court cases challenging them. However, in a landmark case handed down last month, a district judge in Virginia ruled that a public library in Loudoun County, Virginia could not install filtering software on its computers in order to prevent patrons from accessing information perceived as sexually illicit or irresponsible.

The Loudoun County libraries had installed a filtering system named X-Stop which blocked many sites, including the sites of several plaintiffs in the suit. Eight web site publishers and several individual patrons filed the suit against the library, objecting to the filtering system's blocking of sites dealing with topics ranging from safe sex to an on-line discussion of ethical issues. Once the coalition filed the suit, X-Stop removed the sites in question from the block.

The library supported that the filters were essential to prevent people from accessing illegal material such as child pornography from the internet, which the library claims has no First Amendment rights. Furthermore, in an alternate side of the internet freedom issue, if such offensive material were accessible, it could create a hostile working environment for employees of the library and establish grounds for sexual harassment suits. The plaintiffs maintained that the crude nature of the filters blocked access to legitimate sites as well as patently offensive ones. According to them, X-Stop blocked Quaker society and feminist web pages. In the ruling judge's decision, she objected to the filtering system because it was too invasive, and that there were less prohibitive means for preventing the access of offensive material. She suggested that the library place physical barriers around computers which only adults could use, or install filters on computers which only children use. However, the judge noted that she was not sure if these options were constitutional either.

The Loudoun County Library's board of trustees has not decided if it will appeal the District Court's decision. In the meantime, the permanent injunction placed upon the library will hold, and the library must remove the filtering system from its computers.

A similar case in Austin, Texas has likewise provoked strong reactions in the local community. The Austin Public Library is also struggling with how to protect the virtue of minors, while also defending the all-important right to free speech and information. It has reached a delicate compromise, installing the filter system Cyber Patrol (the same system used in Port Washington schools) on most computers, but providing at least one unfiltered computer in each library branch which only adults can use.

Problems in Austin began when many parents and employees complained about the seeming prevalence of offensive Internet material in the library, crying a violation of Texas' "harmful to minors" statute. This statute, which many states possess, outlaws the knowing display of offensive materials to minors. The library responded by installing Cyber Patrol, rejecting a proposal to ban all Internet usage within the library. Civil libertarians, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the American Library Association all swiftly denounced the Austin libraries' new policy of filtering the Internet. Just as in the Loudoun County case, many complained that Cyber Patrol was unduly restricting "legitimate" sites including those having to do with the painters Georgia O'Keeffe and Vincent Van Gogh. Sites devoted to sexually-transmitted diseases were also off-limits to everyone. Objections varied between those complaining about censorship as a policy in general, and the seemingly disparate and random blocking of filter systems.

Approximately fifteen percent of public libraries nationwide use filter systems for the Internet. The vast majority, including the Port Washington library, have "acceptable use" policies which trust in the better judgment of library patrons not to access any inappropriate material that could create a pervasively hostile environment or influence children.

With the new decision from Loudoun County, it may seem that Austin's position is settled, and that the use of filtering software will discontinue. However, it may be quite a while before the precedent in Virginia applies nationwide.

The Lincoln-Douglas Debate Team: Is it born to argue?

by Deborah Geiger

Once upon a time, there were five kids who liked to argue. They were quite good at it, too. Former Schreiber students Scott Ross, Mike Silverman, and Sara Weinstein, and current seniors Dave Farber and Jill Nelson launched Schreiber's own Lincoln-Douglas debate team. Three years and fifteen kids later, social studies teacher Renee McClean leads this booming alliance of a team.

At a given Long Island school, the team congregates with teams from Roslyn, Manhasset, Chaminade, and other schools to debate a good controversial issue every month. Such issues up for debate have included, "Animal testing: necessary or inhumane?" and "Do journalists have the right not to reveal confidential information?" These cases on ethical issues begin at eight o'clock on a Saturday morning and last all day. Interesting and innovative, kids reveal their thoughts on world issues and have a little over a week to prepare a speech. People like these projects because of their opinionated, independent nature; they get to decide the right answer.

During the debate, a student will battle another student alone in a room with only the judge, who

"What do I get if I win?" one might ask. Well, the objective here is to get a full qualification for state championships. In April, debates occur in Albany for the best debaters in New York State. Also, the Long Island Forensics Association conducts a competition for the best Long Island debaters to determine whom to send to National championships. It is an accomplishment for a school to send debaters. Last year, Schreiber sent three people to the State championships—Ross, Nelson, and sophomore



The debate team includes: (from left to right) Matt Hagel, Roxanne Tingir, Mark Hiller, Henry Knapp, Jesse DeSalvo, George Gerstein, Dave Hartman, Ed D'Agastino, Jill Nelson, and advisor Mrs. McClean.

Mark Hiller.

There are pros and cons alike to being on the negative or affirmative side of a given argument in the debate. Statistics and writing techniques can overshadow your main point, so it is best to be careful. The real challenge is pretending to believe in a side, such as being pro-animal testing. One competes in a negative or affirmative side for each round. On the negative side, one has more time to prove points and gets to present a cross-examination as well as a rebuttal. On the other hand, the affirmative side gets up and presents more points but has less time.

The scoring for each round is based on an eighteen to thirty-point scale, thirty being the best.

People claim they like debate, although it constitutes "some research and some work." Members of the debate team have called it "a great learning experience," and "nerve-wracking." Junior Kristin Kovner commented, "It's a lot of fun...very exciting...a good outlet for verbal expression."

To prepare for a match, one has to feel confident with his or her stance in the argument, cool and firm in his or her views, and collected with his or her diction.

Currently the debate team has "inflated its balloon" with a slew of freshman who plan to inherit the debate dynasty.

The debate team is a talented group of young adults which enjoys a good argument. Some may say these skills are inherent in a person, but they are actually learned by the process of debating topics relevant to everyday life.

sits, takes notes, and asks questions. Each competitor comes prepared with written speeches and formulated arguments. The debater competes in the category of his or her skill: novice, intermediate, or varsity. After the first and second rounds of competition are finished, the competitor proceeds to the third one—a power-match round which pairs people with an opponent of their caliber. The judges rate based on rebuttal (response to the opponent's argument) and presentation.

Censorship causes controversy *continued from Centerfold*

the ethics and values of our students and the trust we have in them should act as an internal filtering system." The Board may still opt to filter, as most schools on Long Island have. However, Ms. Dannay stated, "We're not every other school district."

Under the proposed plan, which would be implemented in January 1999, students and their parents would have to sign an "Acceptable Use" contract, which the Board of Education has already approved. Each student would have his or her own account, providing the student with e-mail service.

A teacher will be present in all rooms with Internet access. If a student attempts to access inappropriate material as stated in the "Acceptable Use" contract, the student will lose his or her privileges. Ms. Dannay does acknowledge, nevertheless, that "Something that may not be offensive to me may be to someone else." Ms. Dannay continued, "It's our job to train the kids so they know how to research and to differentiate [between appropriate and inappropriate research sites]."

Philosophically, Ms. Dannay is opposed to filtering systems and contends that "There are problems with every filter." Pragmatically, Ms. Dannay is "a bit worried." At this point, she claims that there have been few problems with students wanting to access inappropriate sites instead of legitimate research sites. Overall, she thinks the system will work. If it is not successful, the Technology Committee will make adjustments.

The Manhasset school district uses CyberPatrol, the same filtering system in Port Washington. CyberPatrol works at the proxy-server level and monitors all requests from one computer. Mr. Fred Goldberg, Manhasset District Coordinator of Technology said that CyberPatrol was chosen because "it had the best ratings of all the filters... It's not a perfect system but it's the best available." Mr. Goldberg feels that CyberPatrol is not a form of censorship and stated that "It was our responsibility to filter the internet."

Manhasset students district-wide must sign with their parents an eight page "Acceptable Use" policy before utilizing the Internet. If a student's parent does not give him or her permission to use the internet, the student may not participate in a class activity involving internet research. Less than ten students district-wide have been denied internet access.

According to Mr. Goldberg, CyberPatrol is eighty-five to ninety-five percent effective. If it blocks a student from a legitimate research site, a teacher or technology director can request that the server unblock a particular site. The server responds within one or two days.

Mr. Mark Steinberger, Port Washington's District Coordinator of Technology, believes that CyberPatrol is "amongst the best" filtering systems, and that it had an overwhelming advantage technologically because it was compatible with the previously installed firewall. The district chose only to block pornography through keyword filtering, approved-list filtering, and blocked-list filtering.

Mr. Steinberger does not feel that CyberPatrol is a form of censorship. According to Mr. Steinberger, "The Internet is loaded with potential. It is a valuable research tool but some information is not appropriate."

CyberPatrol is updated every two weeks. In the interim, inappropriate sites are not blocked. "Nothing is perfect. Teachers need to continue to be vigilant. We trust students," said Mr. Steinberger. Mr. Steinberger encourages teachers and students to contact him via e-mail if blocked sites should not be blocked. He is against immediate bypassing because, "As soon as you allow on-site bypassing, the system is less secure." To date, few teachers have contacted him with problems.

The evidence indicates that there is no correct answer as to whether the internet should be censored in school districts. Every policy has flaws and good qualities. In neighboring communities, school districts have upheld positions from complete freedom of information in Roslyn to extensive filtering systems in Great Neck and Manhasset. We must simply be mindful and cognizant of where to draw the lines between censorship and appropriateness for students.

1998-9 Team Members

David Farber (Co-captain)	Intermediate
Jill Nelson (Co-captain)	Intermediate/Varsity
Mark Hiller	Intermediate/Varsity
George Gerstein	Novice
Roxanne Tingir	Intermediate
Ed D'Agastino	Novice
Henry Knapp	Intermediate
Jesse DeSalvo	Novice
Ben Sobel	Intermediate
Matt Hagel	Novice
David Hartman	Intermediate
Kristin Kovner	Intermediate
Ankit Bishnoi	Novice
Josh Brandsetter	Novice
James Metham	Novice

An important Central American milestone: "Quinciañeras"

by Iris Orellana

In my country, Guatemala, and in several other countries of Central America, there is a special custom which many Americans do not know. This custom is very important to Central Americans girls. This special custom is "Quinciañeras," which is a girl's fifteenth birthday celebration and a recognition of her "coming of age." All girls look forward to this day.

Three or more months prior to their birthday, girls have to look for a new dress, which is usually pink. The girl who is going to be fifteen years old and her mother have to look for fourteen girls and fourteen boys. Those fourteen girls and boys stay with the "Quinciañera" for her birthday. The "Quinciañera" has an escort on this day, and she, he, and the twenty-eight boys and girls make fifteen couples; this is why she is called the "Quinciañera."

When the big day arrives, the "Quinciañera" has to wake up early because it will be a long day for her. She has to get ready, just as her other friends who are going to be with her on the big day do. The "Quinciañera" chooses the gowns which all of the girls will wear and tuxedos for the boys. When they are dressed up and ready to go, the group treks over to church.

At church, the priest talks to the "Quinciañera" about the responsibilities



Junior Iris Orellana is pictured here on her fifteenth birthday. This is a very important date for Central American girls. The special celebration is called "Quinciañeras."

of becoming a young adult. He might say things such as "today you have become a young lady and now you have to act like one," or he might instruct her to say "no harmful things." The ceremony at the church usually lasts for about an hour.

After the ceremony, the group goes to take pictures and then goes to a party. During this time, the "Quinciañera" and her friends travel from place to place via limousine. After they reach their destination, the limousine driver leaves them at the reception where the party is. As they reach the reception, the guests have already arrived. The guests tell the deejay that the "Quinciañera" has arrived, and upon learning this, the deejay announces her arrival.

Then the group of fifteen couples form a line and enters the reception hall, and the guest of honor enters last. Once everyone has entered, they dance to the first number. Once the number is complete, everyone returns to his or her seats except the birthday girl, who proceeds to dance with her father. If her father is not with her, she dances with her eldest brother. After this, the dance floor is open to all. A couple of hours later, the food is served. Once the meal is complete, the dancing begins again.

This is a special moment and tradition for the "Quinciañera" and family. Although it is expensive and requires a lot of hard work, the "Quinciañera" takes her first step into adulthood and experiences a day unlike any other.

courtesy of the Orellana family

Sophomore calls for changes in cafeteria

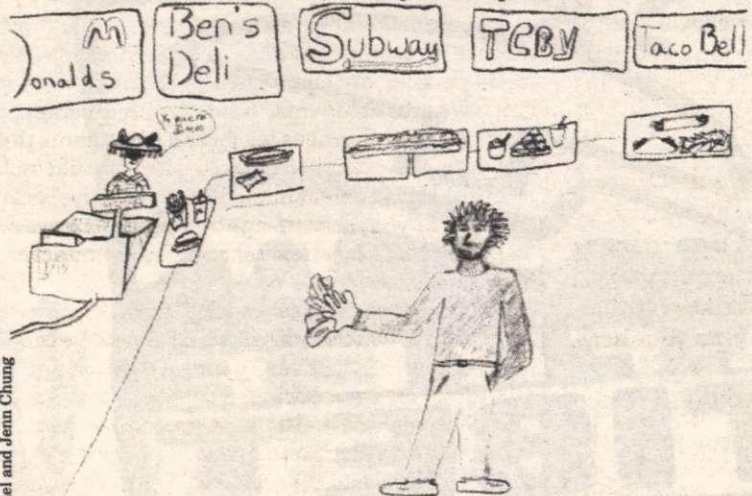
by Jacob Rudman

The recent controversy over a fast-food restaurant near Campus Drive highlights the need for better food services at Schreiber High School. A food court could not only offer better selection and quality dining but also afford a social site for students. It is a known fact that there are many people who are dissatisfied with what the cafeteria offers daily for lunch. A food court would offer a variety of menus to choose from on a daily basis. From sushi to quesadillas, the students could eat what they really like and not be constricted to one or two mediocre choices.


Beyond stimulating our taste buds, a net percentage of each sale, perhaps one percent, could be donated to the school for cultural programs. One can easily observe the success of food courts at every modern-day mall. Roosevelt Field and The Source both have food courts containing such restaurants which attract young people. Anybody who has been to these places can attest to the success of the concept of food courts.

Why should we have to leave school to go to local restaurants to get a decent sandwich or a frozen yogurt? By adding a food court, we would eliminate the huge number of students leaving campus for a better meal. Another advantage to a food court is the addition of a better place to congregate and socialize. The site for this project is the present cafeteria. The current food buying area would be eliminated along with the conference room next to it. The restaurants coming into the school would provide their own funding. The schools would lease to these establishments, which would be responsible for refurbishing their designated areas.

Better food, better choices, better decor, better quality of life for students. Who could disagree with that? After all, variety is the spice of life.



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Electronic Holidays

by Tina Lin

It's that time of the year again. Healthy doses of *It's A Wonderful Life* are on TV. Big jolly men dress up in red suits and fake beards, standing on street corners ringing their bells and asking you for money. Hundred of people gather at Rockefeller Center just to take a couple of pictures of a giant tree with tiny light bulbs on it. Ads and articles with those white little "I'm so

cute I'm almost evil" Furby dolls stare at you every time you go on-line, read a magazine, or pick up a newspaper. Yep, it's Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa time. This kind of publicity can only either make you more anxious for the holidays or completely despise it.

On the Web

For you holiday-happy elves who can't wait to get that pine tree in the door, you might be able to hold back all that holiday enthusiasm this year with the help of the Internet. *Ben & Jerry's Christmas Tree* (<http://www.benjerry.com/yule/christmas-tree.html>) allows you to pick and decorate a virtual Christmas tree on-line. The only hassle is that you must download Shockwave 6 for it to work. And yes, in case you were wondering, this is the same Ben & Jerry's as the ice cream. If you prefer the Menorah, you should visit the *Light the Menorah* (<http://www.geocities.com/EnchantedForest/Dell/1961/light.html>) page on Hanukkah; it's the only time that it lights up. The same goes for *Kwanzaa lighting* (<http://www.zecities.com/EnchantedForest/Dell/1961/kinara.html>); the page doesn't work until December 26.

Home Shopping

Then there are people who, like me, hate the holidays simply because they a) are cheapskates who hates to buy presents b) are unable to think a proper gift idea c) have wonderful ideas but can't find them at any store, or d) all of the above. Well, *HomeArts Holiday Gift Guides* (<http://homearts.com/depts/toc/xmasc3.htm>) gives you ideas on presents and *Shop.com* (<http://www.shop.com>) can help you find them and purchase them. Sorry, the Internet can't do everything for you—I failed to find a web site which will gift-wrap and send the presents to the doorstep of the recipients.

Furbys

Now that your holiday shopping is done, it's time to let out all that anger and frustration. A good place to go would be the *Furby Autopsy* (<http://www.phobe.com/furby>). Somebody, finally had enough of the white little furballs. The creators of this site had "cut open" Toh-Loo-Ka after the doll had "died." Acting as coroners, they conducted an "autopsy," took "pictures" of the body, showed you the "guts" of the doll and then determined the "official cause of death." It's sickening and morbid when you think about it, but sadly, I rather enjoyed this autopsy. But the *Furby Autopsy* is not the scariest Furby site. If you want a real fright, check out *The Furby Power Page* (<http://expage.com/page/thefurbypowerpage>). This site offers you a Furby chatroom, a Furby message board, Furby virtual postcards, Furby pictures, Furby sound clips, a Furby English-Furbian dictionary, a Furby quiz to test your knowledge and most importantly, where to get your own Furby.

And The Alternatives

Hopefully, this will be enough for you to make the Holidays a little more easier to bare with this year. Just remember the three golden rules: be kind, play nice, and don't punch Santa Claus no matter how annoying he is (the same goes for elves). And hey, if all else fails, you can always convert your religion and celebrate Festivus.

The Grades

Ben & Jerry's Virtual Christmas Tree- B+
Hanukkah Lighting- B
Kwanzaa Lighting- B
HomeArts Holiday Gift Guides- A
Shop.com- B+
Furby Autopsy- A
The Furby Power Page- An A+ for zealous fans, B+ for moderates and a C if you absolutely despise the things.

Quote of the month:

"A .5 L bottle of Poland Spring costs one-dollar in the school cafeteria and a gallon of gasoline on Northern Boulevard costs .98 cents."

-Senior Dan Pedisich

Now it can be told: *The truth behind*

STUDENTS FOR A FREE TIBET

by Daniel Kohn

Now that Human Rights week is over, and the "intellectuals" of our school have had their fifteen minutes of fame, let me please introduce myself. I am a co-president of Schreiber's chapter of Students For a Free Tibet (SFT). There have been many different rumors floating around about what we stand for and what exactly our motives are, and in this article, I will clarify all of the misunderstandings which the knowledgeable student body and staff, I'm almost positive, will be open-minded to hear.

The motives of our group are to raise awareness about the non-violent struggle of the Tibetan people to regain their land, religious independence, and more importantly, to have their spiritual leader, the fifteenth reincarnation of the Dalai Lama, return to Tibet. During the past fifty years, China has occupied and later invaded Tibet against the will of its people. Over this span, the Chinese have used almost any tactic possible to eliminate the existence of the Tibetan people. However, even with the imprisonment, beatings, rapes, forced abortions, and other forms of torture of Tibetans, the Chinese could not take away their most important quality: their will. The will of the Tibetans has enabled them not only to withstand this avalanche of horror but also to still believe that someday, they will live to see the day when Tibet is once again independent of the "evil empire" which is called the government of the People's Republic of China.

Over the past few years, with celebrities such as Richard Gere and the Beastie Boys leading the charge, Tibet has become the hot topic of conversation when discussing China's human rights situation. Although they persist to lie about the situation there, the Chinese, by tightening their grip on Tibet, are getting nervous that they are finally being caught doing something inhumane. With two major motion picture releases, three Tibetan Freedom Concerts, and several other functions, the Tibetans are finally receiving that which has eluded them for the first forty or so years of the Chinese occupation there.

Seniors Justin Kalifowitz, Daniel Kohn and Bernard Pollack founded Schreiber's chapter of SFT in 1997. Over the past year and a half, SFT has attempted to gather the support of the generally apathetic Schreiber student body and staff. Although our attempts have been a source of laughter, scorn, and disrespect, the members of SFT have not given up hope that someday we will live to see the day that there is a Free Tibet. Until then, we can only hope to raise awareness in our school. However, as exhibited when we brought the grassroots coordinator of SFT, Paul Donowitz, to Schreiber, the students and staff really don't care about anything except for what is going on in their personal lives. This is not to say that there is absolutely no support. Believe it or not, there are some students who actually do care about what goes in the world and after the assembly, those students said that they were thankful that SFT had spoke about the atrocities in China of which they were not previously aware. These same students also said that they would be interested in getting involved in our cause. Others said that although they were upset about what was going on in Tibet, they said that we should worry about the problems in the United States first, which is perfectly fine in my eyes.

However, the main point which people are missing about SFT is that we are not a radical, fanatical organization. SFT attempts to raise awareness about Tibet through non-violent means. Although people may laugh and snicker about our dedication, it should be pointed out that we have made a difference by boycotting certain corporations, that they have stopped doing business with China. So, student body and faculty, instead of being immature when concerning the issue of Tibet, since now you know the facts about our organization, I hope that you treat us with the respect which we rightfully deserve.



Image is everything... or is it?

by Dara Silverstein

Why is it that a new haircut redefines who you are? It is almost as if by cutting off a few inches of your precious hair, you immediately gain a new self-image or more importantly, a new burst of self-confidence. However, quite often this haircut-high fades after you wash your hair. Once water hits your hair, your hair returns to its same old style, and you can feel all of those compliments which you received in school that day going right down the drain. Is it really necessary for our self-confidence to be based on the way we think that other people see us? Just because something is new, it does not mean that it is better. It is understandable that not everybody will agree, but that is because these are the people who are basically in denial about not judging ourselves by the opinions of others. It is a fact—we all strive for those compliments, we all want abundant self-confidence, and usually we all want to change ourselves in some aesthetic way to make ourselves feel better about our self-image. This is human nature!

The most common misconception which arises is that an external change is as significant as an internal change. We all would like to think that by buying a whole new wardrobe we would instantly become the most popular person to hit high school. This is not true. Clothes definitely do not make the person; they can only help to accentuate a person's inner qualities.

A wardrobe will eventually go out of style, but an internal change will last forever. Whether you want to believe it or not, people who have a lot of friends are more than just an attractive face. Teenagers are really talented at seeing past the phony façade which made people popular in junior high; they begin to see who someone really is. We all, at some point in our lives, have wished that we could be the most popular girl or boy in the school.

We think thoughts of jealousy and anger towards whomever the "most popular" person may be. It seems that he or she has it so easy; he or she is attractive, has tons of friends, always seems to look good, and of course you think that he or she has a better body than you do. In fact, you probably greatly admire this person, and

piness.

It is impossible to think that you can acquire self-confidence by simply getting new clothes or cutting your hair. You attain self-confidence by making personal changes in your attitude, outlook on others, and most importantly, your self-image. We all have a slightly warped

the back of your mind telling you that what you see in the mirror is not how you really look.

The way we view ourselves is the ways others view us as well. If you were to walk into a room feeling beautiful, people would respond to you in a much different way, as opposed to when you walk into a room feeling like the most disgusting thing on the face of the earth. An air of self-confidence can make all the difference, and in order to achieve it, you must be patient. Self-confidence is closely associated with how comfortable you are with yourself. Being comfortable with who you are takes a lot of time. For many people, it can take most of their life. As a high school student, most of us have a long way to go. However, we can all begin to realize that we each have redeeming qualities which, believe it or not, other people see in us and admire. The very beginning in boosting your self-confidence is understanding that each of us is unique, and that we should not try to be someone we are not.

People are always changing, perhaps because we all have such difficult times finding the niche of which we want to be a part. One should not change to suit the wants of another group people. A sticker posted on my bedroom mirror reads, "BE AS YOU ARE." This is a very beneficial saying. If you stay true to yourself, you will never go astray. Self-confidence is one of the greatest qualities a person can have. Once you get it, it is very difficult to lose. Hold your head up high, be yourself, and understand that you have some special quality which perhaps the "most popular person" might really want. Quite possibly, what they want is to have as much self-confidence as you do. The way people see you is usually different than the way you see yourself. A haircut may be a temporary burst of confidence, but it loses its "newness" so quickly. Clothes only make you look good on the outside, when it is the inside which is really important. Keep your focus on the meaningful stuff. Self-confidence never goes out of style.



courtesy of Daniel Kohn

in some ways try to emulate him or her (although you would never admit to this fact). The secret that this "popular person" has is that he or she has self-confidence or at least pretends to have it. Self-confidence is the key to hap-

sense of self-image. We all look in the mirror and think we see that our most unlikely feature has somehow doubled in size over night. It is at these times that we need our self-confidence to start working. There is always that little voice in

Late Nite at la Casa de Kohn

by Andrew Dicken

After a long night out on the town, there is about one thing which I could feel, hunger!!! This Friday night was no different, and after my night, I took a pit stop at the Kohn compound. Once I arrived, Mrs. Kohn, better known as Vicky, greeted me. She was kind, asked me how my night was and if I could get me something to eat. Of course being polite, I had to resist until she went upstairs. Then it came time to "hit the fridge."

It begins with a cupcake

At first glance, my eyes met up with the Hostess Cupcakes. I have always been a huge fan of the cupcakes, and I eat them in the secret way so that every bite I take has some of the line on top. That brings me to the Dicken "tip of the issue." Eat the cupcake diagonally so that every bite has that white icing on it. Another

tip is to leave the cupcakes in the fridge to keep them nice and firm.

Who doesn't like a bagel?

After eating the cupcake, I went straight to the freezer where I discovered the pizza bagels. My desire for them went through the roof, so I called out for Jon, Kohn's Brother. "Can you make me these." He said with hesitation, "No problem." The first time he brought them out they were completely under-cooked and somewhat cold. After sending him back in to correct his mistakes, the batch came out just right.

And now for desserts

After eating about a dozen or so of those, I got a craving for some "junk food." I went straight to the Oreo granola bars

and the Chewy Chips Ahoy. I followed the suggestion on the back of the box to place the cookies into the microwave oven, making the cookies warm and gooey. But my impatience prevailed, and I just ate the cookies without the use of the microwave.

Time for a classic

While I made my way to the microwave, I looked inside the oven just to make sure that there weren't any hidden items. As luck would have it, I stumbled across two fine looking burritos. However, after I finished the first one, Jon informed me that the burritos had been sitting in the oven for over four days. Did you hear that, FOUR DAYS!!! But I didn't care, after all, a burrito is a burrito. But the four days in the oven were definitely a turn-off.

Can't forget the refreshments

From all this food, I became quite thirsty. Then, I decided to drink something I have not drunk in a while: Sipps Iced Tea. I do not know how Snapple and Arizona beat out Sipps for the Iced Tea dynasty. They really have some great iced tea.

All and all this "meal" was quite satisfying, it really hit that "late night" spot.

Overall

Cupcakes- B+
Pizza Bagel- B
Oreo granola bar- B
Chewy Chip's Ahoy- A (when in microwave)
Sipps Iced Tea- A+

Company...what... is...company?

by Beth Hollander

One of the best shows ever to grace a Schreiber stage opened on November 19 and closed November 22. Schreiber's talented thespians performed in *Company*, directed by Mardi Braun and Cam Gelb.

Senior Tim Scott, playing the lead role of Robert, did an outstanding job. He fit the role perfectly. He worked wonderfully with all the members of the cast. Scott's acting allowed the audience to really sympathize with his character, and his singing made many want to give Scott a hug and tell him that everything would get better. His overall performance was incredible, and Scott should definitely be proud of himself on a job absolutely well done.

Junior Kristin Kovner, as April, Robert's ditzy girlfriend, was wonderful. She brought an exuberance to her character which very few can. When Kovner sang "Barcelona" with Scott, it was quite clear to the audience that there was a strong connection between the two. This, as Kovner's first role in a Schreiber musical, was excellent.

Sophomore Julie Goldin played Marta, Robert's "city-centered" girlfriend. This performance, with regard to her acting ability, was not one of her more memorable ones. Goldin's song "Another Hundred People" was outstanding, however, and received loud applause, whistles, and cheers, from the audience each time. This song was the one which many discussed while walking out of the auditorium at intermission.

Junior Katie Lowes played Kathy, Robert's shy, personable girlfriend who leaves him at the beginning of the play. Lowes' acting, for the short amount of time she was on stage, was wonderful, which was no surprise. Lowes also danced the "I Love You Dance" when April (Kovner) makes love to Robert

(Scott). Lowes was graceful, elegant, and entrancing. The dance flowed evenly with the music. The only problem with Lowes' performance was that she really didn't have enough opportunities to perform. Lowes was given a fairly small role in this show. With Lowes' great acting ability and her beautiful voice, she should have had a larger role, or at least one which allowed her to employ her talents. Her song with April and Marta was nice, but it did not show off Lowes' artistry to the audience.

Senior Harmony Goldstein performed the role of Joanne, a middle-aged friend of Robert's. Goldstein's acting was excellent, but her song, "The Ladies Who Lunch," was not right for her. The song was not in a key suitable for Goldstein's range, and she had to reach low notes which Goldstein, as an alto, really could not hit. She did sing her best under the given circumstances.

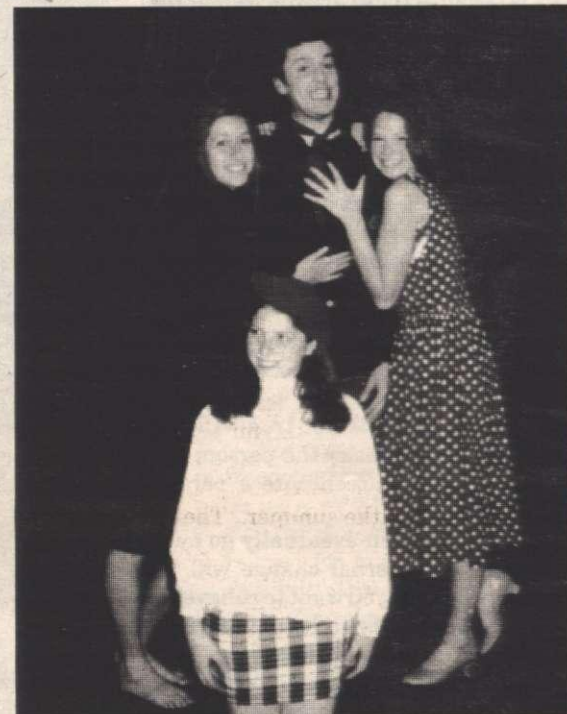
Juniors Alex Boyer and Ariana Tolins, as Susan and Peter, worked incredibly well together as a married couple which rejected the conventional form of marriage. The connection between the two of them was quite strong. Tolins' Southern accent, which could have distracted her acting, added to her role and made her character seem like she had that "Southern charm."

Sophomore Jenny Gamell was wonderful as Amy, another of Robert's friends, who was supposed to get married to Paul (freshman Josh Gelb). Gamell sang the song, "Getting Married Today," which was at such a quick tempo that very few would be able to perfect it the way Gamell did. Although the audience was not always able to understand what she was singing, it was clear that she was not muffling her words in an effort to get them all. Gamell's acting was outstanding, as usual, and truly helped make the show.

The musical was, overall, an outstanding work on the part of both the students and the directors. What helped to make the show incredible was the pit, under

the direction of senior Charles Geizhals. It was the best pit, with no exaggeration, for any show. The musicians rehearsed frequently, and there were no apparent wrong notes or any places in which they were not playing together, which has always been one of the major problems of the pit. The music added to the show tremendously, instead of taking away from it as it sometimes does.

This show will be remembered for many years to come and should definitely be looked to as the standard for all Schreiber shows.



Bobby (Tim Scott) and his women (Kristen Kovner, Julie Goldin, and Katie Lowes).

Sarah Tarica

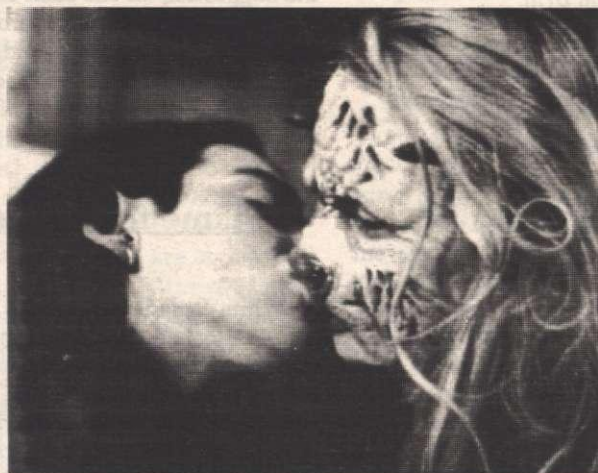
The importance of moronic entertainment

by Dave Harrison

I can't stand winter. Besides the quickly approaching holiday season, there is nothing to jump for joy about, unless you consider shoveling lots of snow for my geriatric parents who belong in a home for the socially-bereft fun. Of course, if that's not bad enough, winter marks the time when I realize that I should hang up my damn cool yet insulation-challenged leather jacket for one of those puffy, offensively colored Tommy Hilfiger jackets which all the fashion victims seem to be wearing these days. Most of the fun stops during the winter season as well—sort of. I mean, I never go outside to play sports or anything, even in the summer (my stunning physique proves this), but the season does make it considerably harder to roll down the window of my car to yell (or throw) things without being hit with an immediate blast of freezing air moving at forty-five miles an hour towards my fat head. So, I'm sure all you kids are sitting there in anticipation, wondering just what I am talking about. Well, here it is, my suggestion on what to do this winter, without even having to leave your couch! It's simple: rent trashy horror movies. Let me explain.

Have you ever stayed up late on a Saturday night watching HBO or Cinemax because you have had nothing better to do? Well, God knows I have, and therefore I can be considered an expert on the movies which they

throw on when they think that none exist for the biggest losers will watch! More often than not, the movie contains incredibly cheesy lines, and Alyssa Milano or that girl from *Diff'rent Strokes* getting naked, but sometimes you get something much better. You get a Troma movie.



This is a touching kiss scene from the Troma cult classic, *Tromeo and Juliet*.

Troma is a small, independent studio which has been churning out terrible horror and comedy movies for over twenty-five years. These movies have such low budgets and such bad acting that it is no surprise that these are my

favorite films. For example, how can you not love movies with titles like *Fat Guy Goes Nutzoid* and *Redneck Zombies*, and characters like Troxie the radioactive rodent? On top of that, the movies feature cameos by such movie and music stars as Marisa Tomei and Lemmy "God" Kilmeister from the legendary British band Motorhead. Take it from me, there is nothing better than popping in a Troma movie with a bunch of people over and laughing like crazy at the stupidity in them which can only come from the mind of

someone as sick and twisted as myself. That man is Lloyd Kaufman.

To get an idea of what Lloyd Kaufman, the founder of Troma Entertainment, is like, let me give you a quick physical description. Imagine a middle-aged man with tennis sneakers and a big red bow-tie who resembles an older, slightly more hyperactive Pee Wee Herman without the talking chair. He has a habit of jumping around a lot and talking extremely quickly. In short, this man is a complete psychopath. He is also one of the most insane geniuses ever. He recently wrote a book entitled *All I Need To Know About Filmmaking I Learned From The Toxic Avenger* (Berkley Boulevard Books), which is nothing more than three hundred fifty pages of digressions spiced with anecdotes about making many of the movies which Troma has released. This is the funniest book I have read since *The Happy Hooker*, and it is definitely deserving of a spot on the *New York Times*' Bestseller List.

So, when winter is making you depressed, and shoveling snow and listening to your parents complain about how the holidays wiped out their income has lost its appeal, rent a Troma movie and sit back and get ready to laugh to the point of nausea, because these movies are so good that you'll become an instant Troma addict. Go ahead; you can thank me later.

MUSIC

M a d n e s s

Pras takes the spotlight with *Ghetto Superstar*

by Jesse Dinner

The third solo debut album by a member of the Fugees comes from Prakazrel, better known as Pras. This album, *Ghetto Superstar*, shows his creative '70s style which mixes hip-hop, rap, and even a little rock.

Pras is the last of the Fugee trio to offer a solo album. The other members of the group are Wyclef Jean and Lauryn Hill. They recently released their solo records, which were instant hits and easily two of the best hip-hop albums of the '90s. Pras has a clearly different identity to his music compared with Jean's pan-cultural hip-hop and Hill's soul, wisdom, and feeling. He has a lot more background vocals in his songs, and most of all, Pras has his memorable funk.

Ghetto Supastar is an exciting album with lots of energy. Pras features many other great musicians on the album such as Old Dirty Bastard, Mya, Wyclef Jean, Cannibus, Lenny Kravitz, and Mack 10. The album begins with the number one hit from the Bulworth soundtrack "Ghetto Supastar." This song was one of the most popular songs of the summer. The next song is "What'Cha Wanna Do." This song is about a man and a woman who want to have sex. This is a very good hip-hop song which makes you move from start to fin-

ish. This song could be a hit if Pras releases it as a single.

The next song, "Blue Angels," is also straight hip-hop. It is a very creative dance song, featuring replayed parts from *Grease*, which is one of my most despised movie soundtracks. However, Pras makes it sound good, and I find that impressive.

Another song, "Can't Stop the Shining" (part two) is a song which mixes rap and rock extremely well. Lenny Kravitz contributes the rock on guitar. Pras does the chorus in his bass voice while Canibus puts in some hardcore lyrics. The next song is "Get Your Groove On" and that is exactly what it does. This song, like "What'Cha Wanna Do," has a groove which is a red-light-bulb-in-the-basement kind of funk. Another song with as much



You've never heard harmony like this before. Pras strikes a pose to celebrate his new album *Ghetto Superstar*.

funk is "Yeah 'Eh Yeah 'Eh," featuring Mack 10. Mack 10's rap flows perfectly with the funky beat and Pras's low voice. The only serious song of the album is "For the Love of This." Another good song on the album is "Lowriders." The song chants "Lowriders push up your lighters to all

my soldiers the street fighters we don't want no murder without your fire lowriders we gettin higher," and it sticks in your head for a long time. The rapping in this song is very fast and very good.

The album also comes with a free bonus disk that is a "Refugee Camp Navy Seal" sample CD. It shows off some of the up and coming "Fugee All-stars." Jean,

S.Remi, T. Britten, and G. Lyle's first song is called "What's Clef." This song is a retaliation from Jean towards L.L. Cool J for making fun of him. This song is pretty funny but extremely annoying because it features the sound of a phone off the hook ringing for the entirety of the song. The second song is "The Right One" by John Forte, S. Michel, W. Robinson, and M. Tarpin. This song is pretty good but it does remind me of the old Pepsi commercial in which the chorus says "You got the right one baby." The third song is "Another One Bites the Dust" which is a take-off from that song when it was done in the 70s. This song has a James Brown style to it and is very original.

The last song on the sample CD is "Here We GO" which is already a popular song on the radio. This is a great reggae song in which Wyclef shows the styles of K. Bass, D. McRae, and M. Moore-Hough. The sampler CD adds to the Pras album immensely.

Pras's album *Ghetto Supastar* is a very unique album which holds its own with the past solo Fugee albums. This is the kind of album that can be played all the way through at a party; you will be dance to each and every song. Besides just moving to this song, it can also get you into a good mood. The combination of music Pras brings forth is so unique that I can say that I have never heard this type of harmony before.

UNKLE breaks through with a new kind of fusion

by Brian Mak

Psyence (pronounced "science") *Fiction*, an album by UNKLE on the Mo Wax label, which has taken three years to make, has finally made its debut. James Lavelle, founder of Mo Wax and producer of *Psyence Fiction*, and world-renowned DJ Shadow are the men behind this record. The record contains music from the band UNKLE, which includes many of today's astounding artists such as Radiohead's Thom Yorke, The Verve's Richard Ashcroft, Metallica's Jason Newsted, and the Beastie Boys' Mike D.

The adventure of Mo Wax began in the year 1992; at the age of eighteen, James Lavelle set up Mo Wax records. Little did he know that six years later Mo Wax would become one of the music industry's most influential and successful record labels that had not been bought out by one of the big boys of the record business (e.g. Sony, Warner). Mo Wax produced records of great influence to the music industry, including those of Massive Attack, DJ Krush, and DJ Shadow. These were great influences because they combined different musical genres which had never before been mixed. From here, Mo Wax began fusing elements of jazz, hip hop, electro, techno, and other styles to form a new style of music.

UNKLE's *Psyence Fiction* is a very influential record in itself. It is one of the first records to use live instruments to play music while mixing in bits and pieces of samples.

Thom Yorke and Richard Ashcroft sing, while Kool G Rap and Mike D. rap on the album.

DJ Shadow did all of the music and samples on UNKLE. James Lavelle's role was to decide whether the sounds which Shadow created worked with each track.

The album *Psyence Fiction* starts off with an eerie sound in which a sample from Star Wars leads into an interesting drum beat and solo often found on the tracks of DJ Shadow's debut album, *Endtroducing*. From there on, Kool G Rap does his thing while DJ Shadow mixes in many different samples along with a spelling of UNKLE to Shadow's beat. The tracks, samples, and beats flow quite well and complement each other.

The thing which is so creative about UNKLE is not only the sampling and instruments but also the beat and tempo of the music. The beat doesn't only stick to the basic four-beat or basic break-beat found in today's music, rather it has a new kind of beat with additions to it. This makes the variations in tempo more intricate.

The sixth track of this album is quite funny. It sounds like an old commercial for a game called "Ball Buster." It is almost as if the album takes a commercial break during the middle of the CD.

This album will seem like a trip within your own mind. Just close your eyes, and the album will take you on a buck wild ride. It is a surreal movie created by the music industry's two greatest masterminds: James Lavelle and DJ Shadow. It's a trip, and then some.

Gewolb's Nights: C.B.G.B.

by Matt Gewolb

Hi, welcome to *Gewolb's Nights*. This month our journey takes us to the heart of Manhattan's Bowery district. Country, Blue Grass, and Blues (C.B.G.B.) is essentially a well-preserved relic of the post-modern punk era in Greenwich Village. Alumni of this stage include artists as Television, Patti Smith, The Ramones, The Talking Heads, AC/DC and Lou Reed and a host of other musical legends too numerous to mention. Be sure to read more about the impressive history of this place at the C.B.G.B. shrine located in cyberspace www.cbgb.com.

C.B.'s, as it is affectionately known by the eclectic patrons, is not a pretty place. From its clientele to its aesthetic features, this club is sure to offer a unique experience. Mohawks, leather, and metal spikes are the way-to-go in terms of dress, and the peeling paint, bathrooms with no doors, metal protruding from various body parts, and the beer-soaked floor loudly proclaims this place somewhat of a dive.

Shows at C.B.'s are all ages and usually consist of somewhere in the neighborhood of 5 bands. Beware of Sunday and Monday nights, however, when auditioning bands 'grace' the stage for a chance at a real gig. These

nights can be extremely painful to listen although occasionally you'll discover a real gem. Bands such as Ballistic Cabaret, which features a one-string bassist, were first spotted at one of these audition showcases. Generally speaking, the quality of the bands at C.B.G.B.'s is not incredibly high. With all due respect to this venerable landmark, the number of truly musical acts performing here has been steadily declining since the mid '90s. So if you're planning an outing it would be wise to call or check the website for the band listings. Typical weekends will bring hard-hitting rock, punk, and hardcore, and Sundays afternoons at C.B.'s can also be extremely entertaining as the club hosts hardcore matinees.

For the reader who might enjoy some lighter music, The C.B.'s Gallery, located next door, is home to more traditional pop bands and acoustic acts. Be careful here, however, because they will occasionally card (shows are 18+) kids that look a little too young. This is a pleasant place to unwind and is highly suggested.

C.B.G.B. is definitely well worth a visit. If not for the music, then just to say you've been there. Happy club-going!

Da' Place: C.B.G.B.
Da' Address: 315 Bowery @ Bleecker
Da' Phone Numba: (212) 982-4052

Rapp & Katz: Holiday Movies

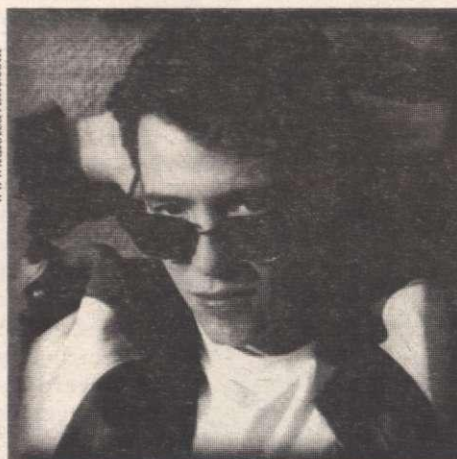
Merry Christmas...anyone...anyone?

by Adam Rappaport

Right now you may be asking yourself a very valid question: "How on earth," you might say, "is *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* related to Christmas?" The answer, of course, is so simple and obvious that you'll want to shoot yourself in the foot when you find out; so here we go. *Ferris Bueller* was directed by John Hughes, and *Home Alone*, the blockbuster brain-child of the aforementioned movie mogul, took place on Christmas. Coincidence? I think not. In fact, it may be that this little connection was purposely created to ensure that all are motivated to see *Ferris Bueller* as our lovely holiday season rolls around.

Ferris Bueller's Day Off sits on its own throne high above the clouds, confined to a wondrous realm to which few movies can aspire. Yes, fellow students, this gem of a movie has been shown on television more times than any other work in the

history of American film. This is probably not a fact, mind you, but what better



Ferris Bueller poses, basking in the afterglow of his school-skipping exploits. Cutting class has never been this much fun.

way to start off a review of a piece of true art which has been made accessible to the general population. Trust me. There is the Mona Lisa...and then there is *Ferris*

Bueller. "Classic" is not even a strong enough word to describe it.

For the underprivileged few who have not seen this teenage anthem of a film, everything worth knowing is described in the opening monologue. The chronically 'sick' Ferris Bueller (Matthew Broderick), who is really only suffering from a bad case of senioritis, looks the camera in the eye and comments, "Life moves pretty fast. You don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it." Following this wonderful teenage logic, Ferris looks outside at the gorgeous weather. "How can I possibly be expected to handle school on a day like this?" he says. And who could argue with him? Following what he knows to be the only thing a student in his position can do, he rounds up his best friend Cameron (Alan Ruck) and his girlfriend Sloan (Mia Sara) for a day of school-ditching fun in the wonderful city of Chicago.

Looking back, everything in the movie is a throwback to the glory days of the eighties, and is better in every way for it. Mia Sara, who has since fallen off the edge of the Hollywood acting map, gives a

heartwarming performance as Bueller's love interest. Throughout the film, various actors from the bygone decade show their faces, which helps to give the movie a light-hearted feeling.

As in other Hughes movies such as *Sixteen Candles* and *The Breakfast Club*, new young actors get together and ultimately learn something valuable about teenage life. However, *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* takes it one step further, adding a supremely witty script and elevating the film to a realm above that of a 'cult' movie. Ruck, Sara, and Broderick blend together to create on screen chemistry which fills the *Ferris Bueller* with a sweet and crafty quality that has not yet been replicated.

The premise seems simple, but it is the story between the lines which counts. *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* is a tribute to the kind of thinking that only those under the age of twenty seem to understand. By following the simple plan of a disgruntled high school senior, it ends up teaching us that there is more to life than good grades, big houses, and fast cars. It is a dedication towards the triumph of friendship and enjoyment over all else, especially school.

Deck the halls with *Predator*

by Daniel Katz

There are quite a few crappy holiday flicks out there, so instead of wasting your cash on a ticket for *Jack Frost*, I suggest renting a holiday classic like *Predator*. Actually, scratch that: if my memory serves me correctly, Blockbuster's copy of *Predator* sucks, so instead you should purchase a DVD player. Buy some new speakers to install all around the television room (thus creating a surround sound system) and finally rent or buy the *Predator* DVD.

What, you might ask, does the 1987 Schwarzenegger action pick *Predator* have to do with the holidays? Well, *Predator* was directed by John McTiernan, who also directed the *Die Hard* films, which weren't holiday films either. However, the *Die Hard* films all took place on Christmas Eve. So, in a six-degrees-of-separation kind of way, *Predator* can be considered a holiday film. Well, not really, but for the most part holiday movies stink, so this season, watch one of Hollywood's better achievements.

The first act of *Predator* plays like *Rambo* as it follows the adventures of Maj. Alan "Dutch" Schaefer (Schwarzenegger) and his rescue team as they go on (you'll never guess) a rescue mission to save a bunch of United States soldiers being held captive by guerrilla terrorists. Then, out of the blue, the film begins to echo *Alien* as the rescue team is killed off one by one by a mysterious alien who has a thing for skulls. In today's Hollywood, it's creative for an action film to rip off two other action movies, as

opposed to just one.

However, what takes *Predator* above most action films is more than just its "creative" story line. First of all there's McTiernan. McTiernan has shown audiences which he can successfully make hugely entertaining action flicks (once again, *Die Hard*), as well as highly intelligent thrillers (*The Hunt for Red October*). In *Predator*, he uses both qualities. Set to Alan Silvestri's rich score, McTiernan takes us deep into a South American no man's land, with slick and steamy exteriors. The heroes spend most of their time surrounded by an impenetrable jungle, a green wall of majestic vistas populated by all sorts of natural predators in addition to the alien.

Then there's the action element; top of the line, if you ask me. There's a high-octane storming of a terrorist hide out during the film's *Rambo* part, followed later in the film by some scenes and images which are brilliantly terrifying and thrilling. The predator itself is a work of artistry. For the first half of the film only its outline is visible, while its body blends perfectly into the jungle exterior. Later in the movie, it reveals itself to us. Its tentacles resemble dreadlocks, and its spider-crab-face remains hidden behind something that resembles a Jason-style hockey mask. Watching this film for the first time, way back when, I can remember the predator's first on-screen appearance being one of the most horrific moments in film history. Of course I was only ten years old, but watching it today, it's still pretty freaky.

Another element of *Predator* which I just love is the team. Don't you just love movies in which there's an action team? You know, movies like *Mission Impossible*, *Ronin*, and *Aliens*. Schwarzenegger's team in *Predator* is no

less lovable. There's Dillon (Carl Weathers) the suspicious CIA operative; Billy (Sonny Landham) a Native American who, of course, has an excellent sense of direction; Hawkins (Shane Black), a four-eyed geek whose only lines are dirty jokes; Mac (Bill Duke), the guy with a screw loose; Pancho (Richard Chaves) a cipher whose only purpose in the film is to die gruesomely; and finally there's Sgt. Blain (former wrestler/presently governor Jesse Ventura), who is a big rude "sexual tyrannosaurus," as he describes himself.

So what are you waiting for? Drop whatever you're doing, steal a car, and head on down to Blockbuster or another place which carries the *Predator* DVD (that is of course, after you buy the DVD player). Or if you want to be a cheap-o this holiday vacation, you can rent the crappy copy from Blockbuster. Go on and do it; you have my permission.



Dutch (Arnold Schwarzenegger) confronts the alien who's been giving him a hard time.

College Coaching

Mock Interviews

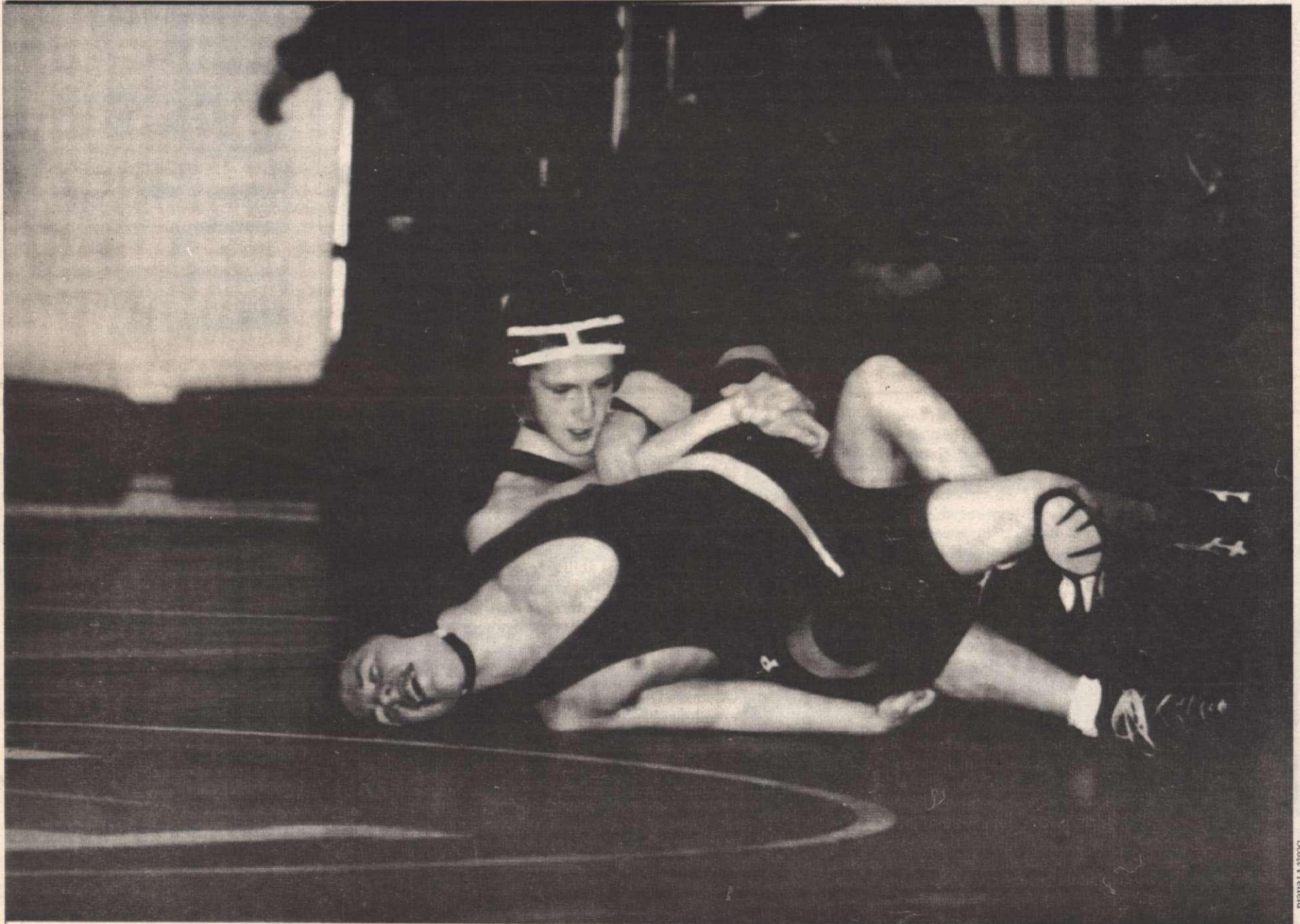
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VIKING SPORTS

Vikings crush Hicksville in tune-up for Hank Paris Tournament



Junior Evan Knight forces his opponent to the floor giving him a bloody lip. Knight won his match 12-2.

by Scott Freifeld

The boys' wrestling team won its first match of the season on December 10. The team got off to a late start but with five consecutive victories the team defeated Hicksville, 49-16.

After forfeiting in the 103 pound weight class, sophomore Michael Henderson won the first real match. After a brutal first period, Henderson pinned his opponent in the second period and tied the match at 6-6. After Henderson got the team roll-

ing, senior Rob Latzman had the mat. However, after three long periods time ran out and Latzman was defeated. Hicksville had the lead 9-6.

Senior Brian Bordeau followed Latzman and pinned his opponent with ease. Bordeau, coming off a successful 1997 season, quickly continued where he left off in 1997. Bordeau's pin gave the Vikings a 12-9 lead. However, senior Joey Cetta could not keep the team rolling as he lost on points. The loss tied the match at 12-12.

Junior Evan Knight, another wrestling veteran restarted, the Vikings engine as he dominated his opponent.

Knight forced many near-falls but was not able to force the pin. However, Knight did pick up a 12-2 victory, and the Vikings had the lead 15-12. Sophomore Jose Galeano extended Port's winning streak to two matches by defeating his opponent on points. Galeano's victory extended Ports' lead to ten points. However, junior Oscar Osario lost his match, and the score was Port-Hicksville, 20-16.

Senior Matt Scoville regained Port's momentum with an easy victory over his competitor. Scoville quickly pinned his Hicksville opponent. Junior David London followed Scoville with a pin of his own. London, in his first year starting on

varsity, also pinned his opponent. Then junior Greg Savran, in his second year starting on varsity, dominated and thrashed his opponent. With the aggressiveness of a wild dog with rabies, Savran plastered his opponents back to the mat. Following Savran were two straight forfeits for Port. With five consecutive victories, the Vikings won their first match of the year.

With the victory against Hicksville, the team participated in the Hank Paris Tournament. The team finished second overall. Brian Bordeau and Frank Zacchario finished first in their respective weight classes.

Varsity Boys' Basketball AT A GLANCE

Vikings Up Close

Coming off of a great 1997-1998 season the team is looking to improve on its 10-2 record. With the loss of all-county player Rex Mayo and Anthony Davis, the team has added many new juniors to the team. Although the team is young, the team is looking to increase size and go for a bigger look. With the increase in height, the team is looking to plan a powerful game down low and under the boards.

The Coach



Coach James Gilmaritn is in his second year coaching the Vikings. Replacing long time coach Steve Shackel, Gilmartin led the team to a 10-2 record in 1997-1998, its best mark in years.

Last year's impressive 10-2 record speaks for itself. With many returning veterans, the team is looking forward to another successful season.

December 19, St. Dominic's
Away 7:30

December 22, GNN
Home 7:00

January 5, Lawrence
Home 7:00

January 12, Long Beach
Home 7:00

January 15, Planiview
Home 7:00

January 16, Herricks
Away Noon

January 20, Mephram
Home 7:30

January 22, Mac Arthur
Away 6:15

January 30, Elmont
Away Noon

February 1, Valley Stream C.
Away 7:30

February 3, Lawrence
Away 7:30

February 5, Long Beach
Away 5:00

February 8, Valley Stream C.
Home 7:00

The Players

Dennis Baldi 5-10 G
Junior



Baldi is a strong perimeter shooter, and has good ball-handling skills. His size makes him a pesky defender to opponents.

Brian Dermody 5-11 G
Junior



Dermody makes a high percentage of his three-pointers, and is a tough defender. His speed and quickness make him hard to guard.

Kenny Mandelkern 6-0
G/F Junior



Mandelkern is a tall, built versatile player. He can dribble, shoot, rebound, and defend with the best of them. He will be a big part of whatever success the Vikings have this year.

Jim Cosolito 5-10 G
Senior



Cosolito, the captain of the Vikings, shows that he surpasses those of your normal high school basketball player. He is one of the team's leaders, and his skills live up to his reputation of being one of the top players in the conference. He will be a big name in the league, and the team's success depends on his ability to perform in crunch time. Cosolito will probably live up to his expectations, and will have good numbers this

Ricky Brown 6-3 F
Junior



Brown's height and size make him a presence in the paint. Many opponents will fear Brown's defense and rebounding.

Jason Ham 5-11 F
Junior



Ham, one of the best athletes you can ask for, is another team leader. His size is small for his position of forward, but his skill, strength, and speed make up for it.

Justin O'Garrow 6-0 G
Junior



O'Garrow's excellent ball-handling ability makes him one of the most important guards on the team.

Patrick White 6-1 F
Senior



White is a big forward with a good outside shot. His skills and leadership make him a valuable senior for the Vikings. Hopefully, he will have the success he had last year and be one of the top forwards in the conference. The team needs for him to be successful in order to contend with the top teams in the league.

Sonny DeFeo 5-11 G/
F



DeFeo is one of the Vikings' top scorers. His shot from the perimeter and his ability to drive through the lane make him rough to figure out for defenders.

Sung Kwon 5-11 F
Junior



Kwon's ball-handling skills as a forward make him very valuable for Port. He also has good rebounding and defensive skills. Kwon is the Dennis Rodamn of the Vikings.

Steve Osorio 6-3 F/C
Junior



Osorio is another big man for the team. His size makes him a strong rebounder and defender. Defenders cringe when they have to go into the lane and face the "Big O."

Anurag Vij 6-1 C
Senior



Vij, one of the strongest players on the team, makes his presence felt in the lane. He will be among the team leaders in rebounding. Vij also has a surprisingly accurate outside shot for a center. The team needs for him to block shots and grab rebounds to start fast breaks. His size will help him to take up space in the lane and intimidate opponents who dare to drive toward the hoop.

Page compiled by Scott Freifeld and William Kang. Photos by Scott Freifeld and Joey Grogan

The Girls' Vikings Schedule

Last year, the Lady Vikings qualified for the playoffs with an impressive 13-5 record. Although the team has lost many starting players from last year, the players have been working hard and are looking forward to another exciting season.

December 22, Calhoun
Away 4:30

January 5, New Hyde Park
Home 4:30

January 8, Great Neck South
Away 5:00

January 12, MacArthur
Away 4:30

January 14, Glen Cove
Home 4:15

January 16, South Side
Home 6:00

January 19, Carey
Home 4:30

January 21, Hewlett
Away 6:45

January 29, New Hyde Park
Home 7:00

February 2, MacArthur
Home 4:30

February 5, Westbury
Home 7:00

February 9, Garden City
Away 5:45

page compiled Andrew Montalenti and photos by Scott Freifeld

Varsity Girls' Basketball AT A GLANCE

Vikings Up Close

The Lady Vikings varsity girls' basketball team is showing great potential for the upcoming games of their season. Sarah Walsh, Emilie Kirkpatrick, and Chantelle McCurty will contribute greatly to the team's success. The high scoring and strong defense provided by these key players, with the cooperation of the rest of the team, will insure victory for the team. Expect a great season to come.



The Coach

Coach Stephanie Joannon is the dedicated leader of the Varsity Girls' basketball team. She has been working with the Lady Vikings for sixteen years and has helped the team in fine-tuning its performance and making sure all the players have fun.

The Players

Nina Buitrago 5'5" G
Senior



Senior Nina Buitrago is returning to the team from last year. Playing guard, she has good determination and is playing hard. She is a great overall athlete and is very aware of the court.

Stephanie Castillo 5'7" G/F
Junior



Junior Stephanie Castillo has a solid all-around game. Her height gives her an advantage as a guard/forward. She is also very aware of the court, and grabs some rebounds where possible.

Erin Cohen 5'7" F
Junior



Junior Erin Cohen returns from last year to continue her basketball career. She is a very good defender and grabs some rebounds. She has potential to be an even better player in her senior year.

Margaret Garafalo 5'3" G
Senior



Senior Margaret Garafalo is one of the instrumental guards for the Lady Vikings team. She has good ball-handling skills and will be imperative to the success of the team.

Kim Greene 5'2" G
Freshman



Freshman Kim Greene is a new member to the team. She has shown great play ability and determination on the court. Greene is a major asset for the Lady Vikings.

Lauren Greene 5'5" G
Senior



Senior Lauren Greene is returning from last year. She is a great defensive player. She covers her opponents very well.

Karen Hansen 5'5" G
Junior



Junior Karen Hansen is a great ball-handler/offender. She moves the ball up the court quickly and is a catalyst of the team's offense.

Emilie Kirkpatrick 5'7" G
Senior



Senior Emilie Kirkpatrick is described to be the heart and soul of the Lady Vikings team. She scores many points with a high hit percentage and is very aware of court.

Chantelle McCurty 5'10" C
Junior



Chantelle McCurty is new to the team, and is a great defender. Her position matches her playing style. Expect to see some great plays from her.

Sarah Walsh 5'5" G
Freshman



Freshman Sarah Walsh is definitely one of the best players on the team. She scores a multitude of points and grabs more rebounds than can be counted.

Elaine Yopez 5'7" F
Junior



Junior Elaine Yopez has been a recent addition to the team. Despite her inexperience, she is a very talented player and should prove to be a key factor in the team's success.

Boys' basketball has slow start; loses in Manhasset tournament



Junior Sonny DeFeo passes the ball to his teammate. DeFeo is a starting guard for the team.

by William Kang

The boys' varsity basketball team started out its regular season at the fortieth annual Fritz Muller Tournament at Manhasset High School. The teams which played at this tournament were Port, Friends Academy, Manhasset, and Saint Mary's. Port's first game of the tournament was against Saint Mary's on December 11, and the Vikings suffered a defeat, 86-61. Saint Mary's, finishing in second place in New York State in the 1997-1998 season, was the clear favorites in the first round match. The Vikings played well, but Saint Mary's was too strong. High scorers for Port were junior Jason Ham, with seventeen points, junior Steve Osorio with sixteen points, and senior Jim Cosolito who had fourteen points. They played the next night in the consolation game against Friends.

Against Friends, Port started out hungry and quick. Port took an early 12-5 lead, with two three-pointers from juniors Sonny DeFeo and Justin O'Garro. However, Osorio had three early fouls and had to leave the game. The Vikings slowed down after taking their lead, and the first quarter ended with the score tied at nineteen.

It was in the second quarter in which Friends took its first lead. The score went back and forth, and the first half ended with Friends on top, 35-34. DeFeo led the team with thirteen points in the first half.

The Vikings started to pull away in the second half, forcing many steals and easy baskets. However, Port also failed to capitalize on many turnovers and could have taken a larger lead if it had controlled the ball. The team took a 58-53 lead, and the third quarter came to a close.

Friends made another comeback in the fourth quarter and took the lead for good 66-65. Port would not score any more points, and the final score ended with Friends getting the victory, 71-65. DeFeo led all scorers with twenty-one points, and Ham and O'Garro finished with twelve points each.

The team looks strong this year, with tough defense and good shooting from the perimeter. If the team can score more points off turnovers and have better ball control, it looks to come off this unsuccessful tournament and be a force in its division.

On his hopes for the team this year, Coach Gilmartin said, "It'll get better. We'll know where we're at by early January." Jokingly, he also added, "I think some guys still have their football pads on."

Girls' basketball encountered disappointment in finals; Vikings tip off tournament

by Andrew Montalenti

The girls' varsity basketball team, led by Coach Stephanie Joannon, has had a decent start to what hopefully will be a great season. The team has eight returning team members and three rookies. To start off a great season and gain some support from the Lady Viking fans, it played in a tip-off tournament against two other teams; they played both games on home court.

The Lady Vikings played its first game against Division High School on December 11. Freshman Sarah Walsh was the apparent dominant player throughout the entire game. She scored a total of seventeen points and grabbed eight boards. In addition, she helped the team function more as a whole with five assists. Also dominating the game for the Lady Vikings was senior Emilie Kirkpatrick, scoring a total of eighteen points and grabbing a good amount of rebounds. Kirkpatrick started the scoring for Port early by hitting one of two free throws after falling behind 5-0. But the team definitely could not have done without junior Chantelle McCurty, who helped the team with her height advantage and her boards. She was an instru-

mental part of the Lady Viking's defense. The team won the game, 49-41.

The Lady Vikings played its second game against on December 12. Yet again, Walsh contributed her share of points to the scoring game, with eight points total. McCurty definitely was doing a good job on grabbing those rebounds. Junior Erin Cohen and Kirkpatrick contributed great offensive and defensive games, scoring the most points of that game. The Lady Vikings struggled for a victory, but the game ended with Syosset ahead, 55-44.

One of the things that I noticed was the Coach's dedication to the team. Coach Joannon has shown nothing but absolute support for her team, and she feels that is one of the keys to its success.

Despite the loss against Syosset on December 12, the girls' basketball team has started off the season well. The team seems to be looking good and heading toward an excellent season. It is evident that scoring leaders like Walsh and Kirkpatrick will play a large part in leading the team to victory. In addition, McCurty has the potential to be one of the best defensive players on the team. The team's season looks promising. Support the team at its next home game versus Glen Cove on January 14, at 4:15 pm.

The team is bound to be more successful in later games, and improve their team work.



Senior Emilie Kirkpatrick shoots a lay-up. Kirkpatrick is in her third season with the Lady Vikings.

Ben Brnd

Benja is victorious in second state swimming championships

by Christine Kang

Senior Theda Benja and sophomore Nontawan Benja competed in the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Championships on November 20 and November 21.

Held at the Goodwill Games Swimming and Diving Center in Eisenhower Park (East Meadows, New York), this meet marked the culmination of months of hard work and training. For the two sisters, competing in this important event gave them a chance to evaluate their different strengths and weaknesses.

They were both physically and mentally prepared for this important meet, nonetheless, they felt nervous.

This marked Theda's second time competing in the State Championships. When asked how she had felt prior to this meet, Theda replied, "I wasn't sure how I was going to place at the championships, but I hoped that I would place at least in the top eight, especially in my strongest event, the 200 free." She exceeded her own expectations and placed sixth in the 200 yard freestyle event with a time of 1:57.02. In her other individual event, the 100 yard freestyle, she placed sixteenth with a time of 55.03. She also competed in the much-anticipated 400 yard freestyle relay event with her sister Nontawan, sophomore Sandra Enscoe, and eighth grader Jessica McGuire. They finished

eleventh with a time of 3:58.07.

Sophomore Nontawan ended the school swimming season well. At all nine meets, and in every event she competed in, she placed first.

Nontawan commented, "There was some pressure on me during the season, and on everyone else, because we really wanted to come through the season undefeated—which we achieved. And when the Championships came up I wasn't really nervous because it doesn't end my own season, but I really wanted to do well. . . I knew there were going to be a lot of tough competitors there."

Nontawan's times at the State Championships were a clear reflection of her prowess as a swimmer. In the 200 yard individual medley she placed fifth with a time of 2:14.75, and in the 100 yard breast stroke she placed fifth again with a time of 1:10.61.

Of her results she said, "I was really surprised with how I swam because I expected to be seated low with my performance times. . . I swam better than I had expected."

For the Benja sisters, this meet, although it is an important event in a high school swimmer's career, was, as Theda put it, "only the beginning." They both swim year-round and travel to different parts of the United States—from California to Texas—competing in different meets against the best young swimmers in the country.

Perhaps it is this experience in swimming in difficult competitions which has prepared them to perform well in such meets as the New York State Championships.



Charles Albanese

Senior Theda Benja gets ready for the much anticipated 200 yard free style relay. She finished the event with a time of 1:57.02.

Boys' and girls' bowling successful in their first game

by Scott Freifeld

The boys' and girls' varsity bowling teams were both in action on December 9. The boys defeated Valley Stream North, and the girls defeated Manhasset.

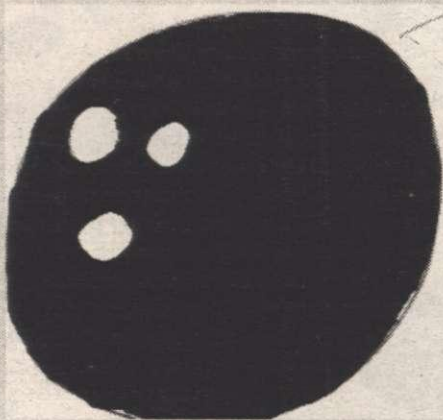
The boys' varsity bowling team is highly touted among Nassau County schools. The team easily defeated Valley Stream North in two of three games. The first match was a very close encounter, but the Vikings pulled out the victory in the last frame. With a huge victory in the first match the Vikings were pumped for the second match.

However, although the Vikings had momentum, the team slumped and lost

the second match. Valley Stream North took matters into its own hands and handed the Vikings its first loss. With each team winning one game, the teams faced off in a rubber match for the combined victory. Angry about the loss in the second match, the Vikings rebounded and destroyed Valley Stream North in the third and final match. With the second victory, the team won the overall game.

The girls were also victorious in three matches. In the first match, senior Christina Wei bowled a turkey (three straight strikes) to seal the victory. However, in the second game, Manhasset defeated the girls. The girls faced-off in a third and final match. The Lady

Vikings won the third match and the game. Both teams were victorious and are on-pace for an impressive season.



Sean Corriell

If any part of my brain becomes damaged, neuron activity will be rerouted and I will still be able to order my food- like the internet.
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Seniors celebrate

Pajama Day



Seniors took a break from class to pose on Pajama Day. (l-r) Tom Love, Robert Latzman, Zahir Zaveri, Meredith Schiff, Emily Record, Heather White, Nina Mandel, Jenny Chung, Naomi Ando, Nazanin Farsidjani, Krista L. Abbate, Liz Greenbaum, Adam Rappaport, Rachel Schiff, Shira Tolins, Alexandra Herzlich, and Arielle Soloff. Bottom left (l-r): Mike DiBenedetto, Fazilet Cagirici, Bottom Right (l-r) Courtney Weinberger, Tiffany Caporaso.



by Jill Nelson

On Tuesday, November 23, the seniors of Schreiber High School were encouraged to do something that they have wanted to do every time they woke up late for school or got only two hours of sleep the night before an exam. They came to school in their pajamas. Decked out in everything from animated slippers to flannel pajamas to one-piece sleepers, they traveled through the halls victoriously, claiming their privileges as seniors on infamous Pajama Day. Some carried beloved stuffed animals, some brought worn-out baby blankets, and a daring few even brought their pillows to classes where they promptly fell asleep on them.

On this relaxing and self-indulgent day the seniors were treated to a delicious breakfast consisting of coffee, cookies, bagels, and many other treats provided by the senior Class Club. All in all it was a wonderful day.



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